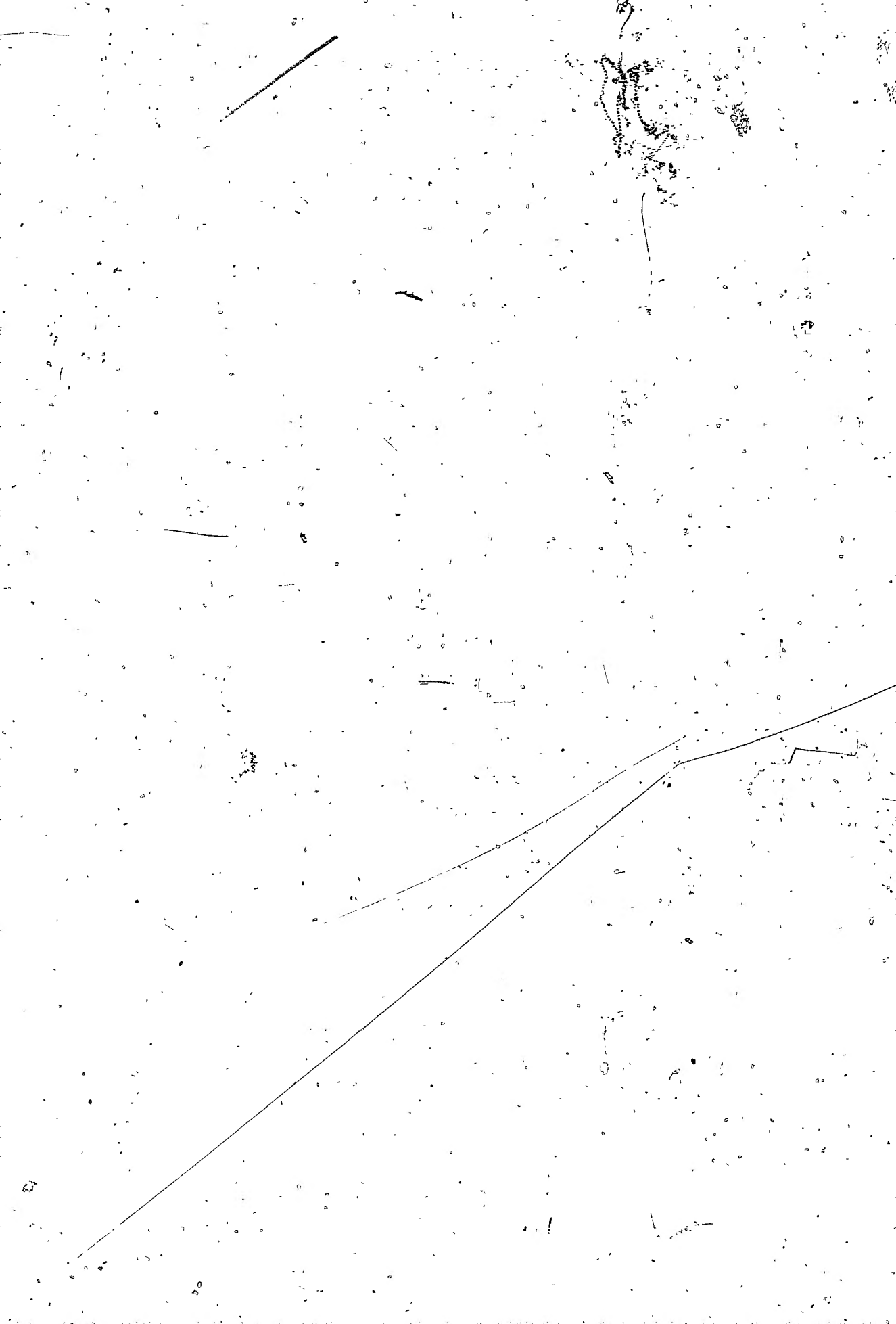


WESTERN CANADA  
BOOK OF LECTURES

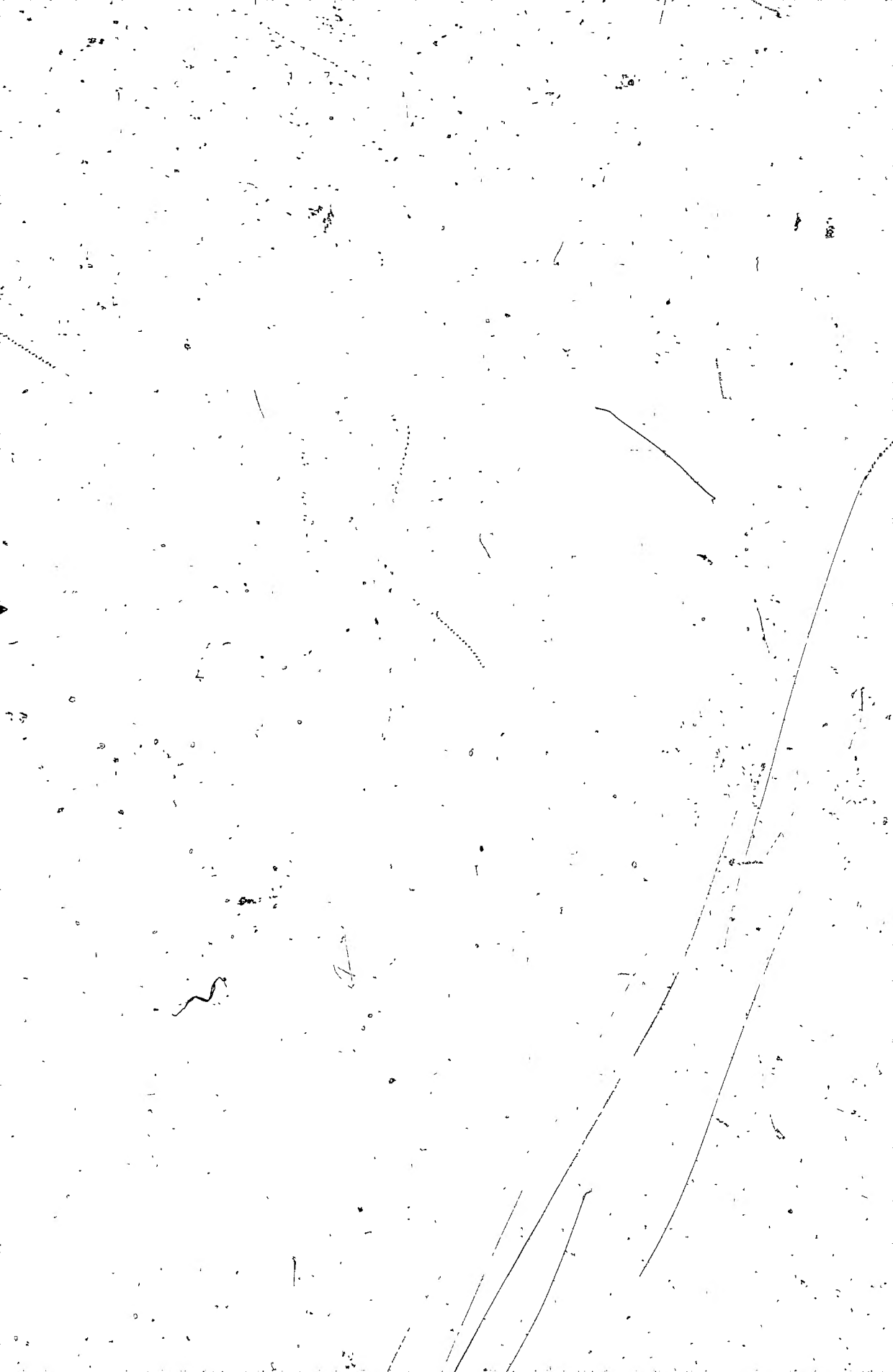




# LECTURE I.



1905



# LECTURE I.

GENTLEMEN:—

One has only to review the progress made in the Canadian West during the last few years to conclude, if unprejudiced, that it is a marvelous country, possessing in itself all the essential elements of inherent greatness.

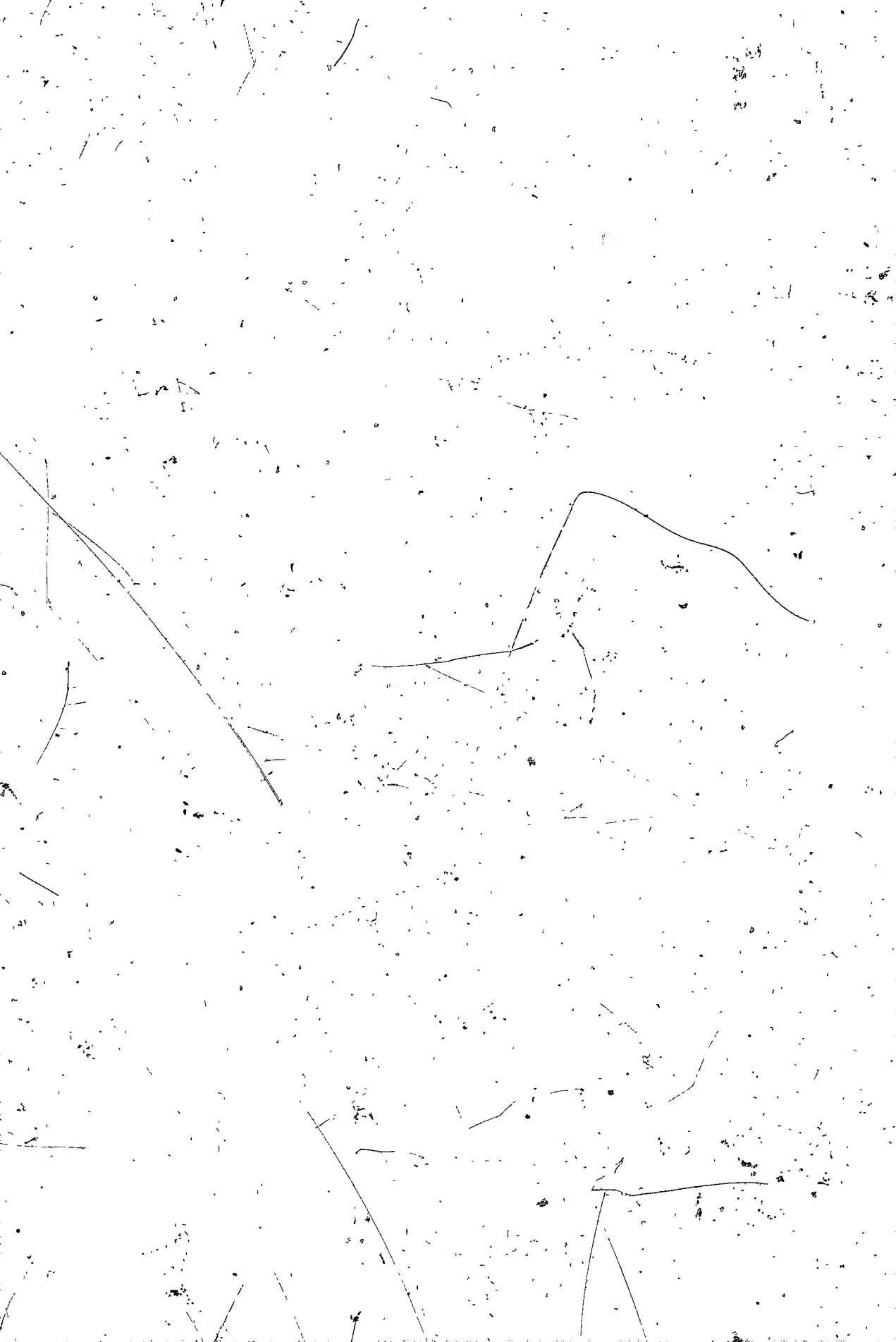
A land  
possessing  
essential  
elements  
inherent  
greatness.

Thirty-five years is but a very short time in the history of any country or nation, and yet the commencement of that country goes back but 35 years. Previous to that it was "a wilderness wild," the home of the buffalo and other wild animals, and, having for its evidences of civilization the tents of a few scattered tribes of Indians. In 1869, on the 1st of July, the Imperial Government by proclamation, transferred the whole country, embracing some 385,000,000 acres of land, mostly prairie, but in parts prairie and woodland combined, to the Canadian Government, the latter paying the Hudson's Bay Co. \$1,500,000, and giving it two sections of land in every township of 36 sections, as surveyed, to extinguish its title, which consisted of some trading rights under a charter from one of the Kings of England many years ago. With that transfer the history of the country began, and it is no stretch of the facts to say that had it not possessed worth and wealth in abundance at that time its subsequent development to present proportions could not have been possible.

## THE PROVINCES CREATED.

One of the first acts of the Canadian Government was to create the eastern portion of the country into a province called Manitoba and to give the latter all the self-governing powers of the older provinces. At the time, in whites and half-breeds, the population of that province was a few less than 10,000 souls, and the whites of the rest of the country consisted of a few people at the trading posts of the Hudson Bay Company scattered over the country.

The creation  
of the Pro-  
vinces in the  
West



In 1882 the remaining part of the southern area of the country was created into four territories—Athabasca, Saskatchewan, Assiniboia, and Alberta. There still remained large areas to the north of the organized country, but as they are not yet opened for settlement they are not taken into account in government publications. They stand in relation to Canada as Alaska stands to the United States. This year again these four territories were converted into two provinces, called Alberta and Saskatchewan, and henceforth it is with these three provinces all government publications and speakers will have to deal. As territories the four divisions possessed much local power as to self government, but under the provincial form they now possess, they are invested with full autonomy, the same as all the older provinces of Canada.

### AGRICULTURE A SUCCESS.

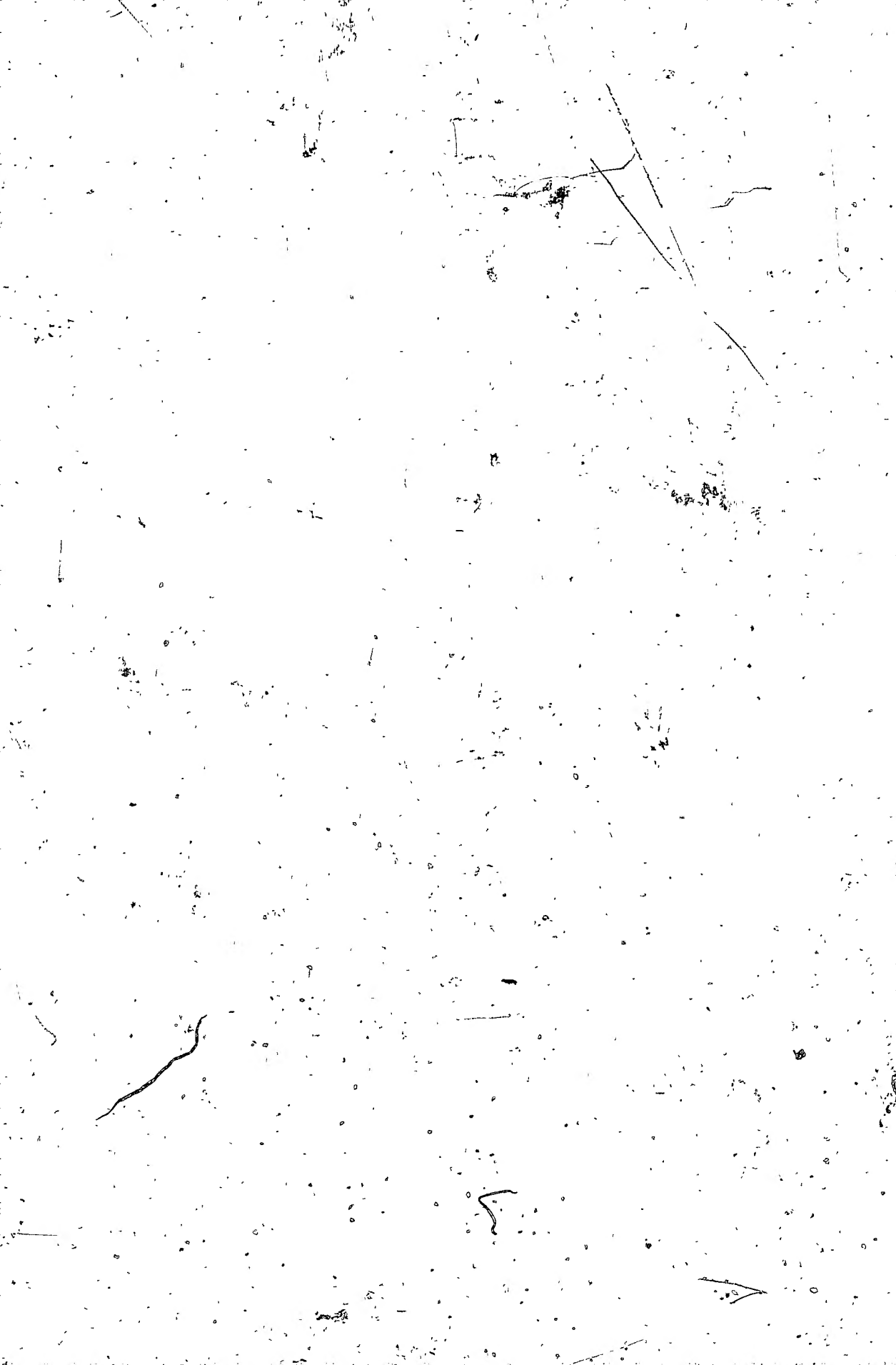
Like all other prairie countries the Canadian West possesses several industries or rather several branches of the one leading industry—agriculture. As wheat growing is the leading employment of the country I may take it up for first consideration, and cannot better introduce it than by reading a couple of extracts from the minutes of a Millers' meeting at Minneapolis on the 28th of October, 1904: "The small American wheat crop this year is proving conclusively that the wheat fields of Manitoba and other grain producing provinces of Canada should not be kept beyond a practical trade barrier, and that the North Western wheat crop cannot always be relied upon to furnish enough material to keep the wheels of American mills running;" and again: "Against our tremendous shortage, almost unprecedented in the United States, stands the bumper wheat crop of north west Canada—some 60,000,000 bushels strong. A portentous result of this condition may be seen if one turns his eyes in the direction of any one of the many border towns."

Wheat growing is the leading industry.

"There is now being witnessed the greatest rush in the history of American farmers to secure wheat lands across the boundary line under the Union Jack."

If I were to close with these remarks alone I should have said plenty to convince all open to conviction that the Canadian west offers inducements to farm settlers such as are held out to-day by

Best inducements offered to farm settlers.



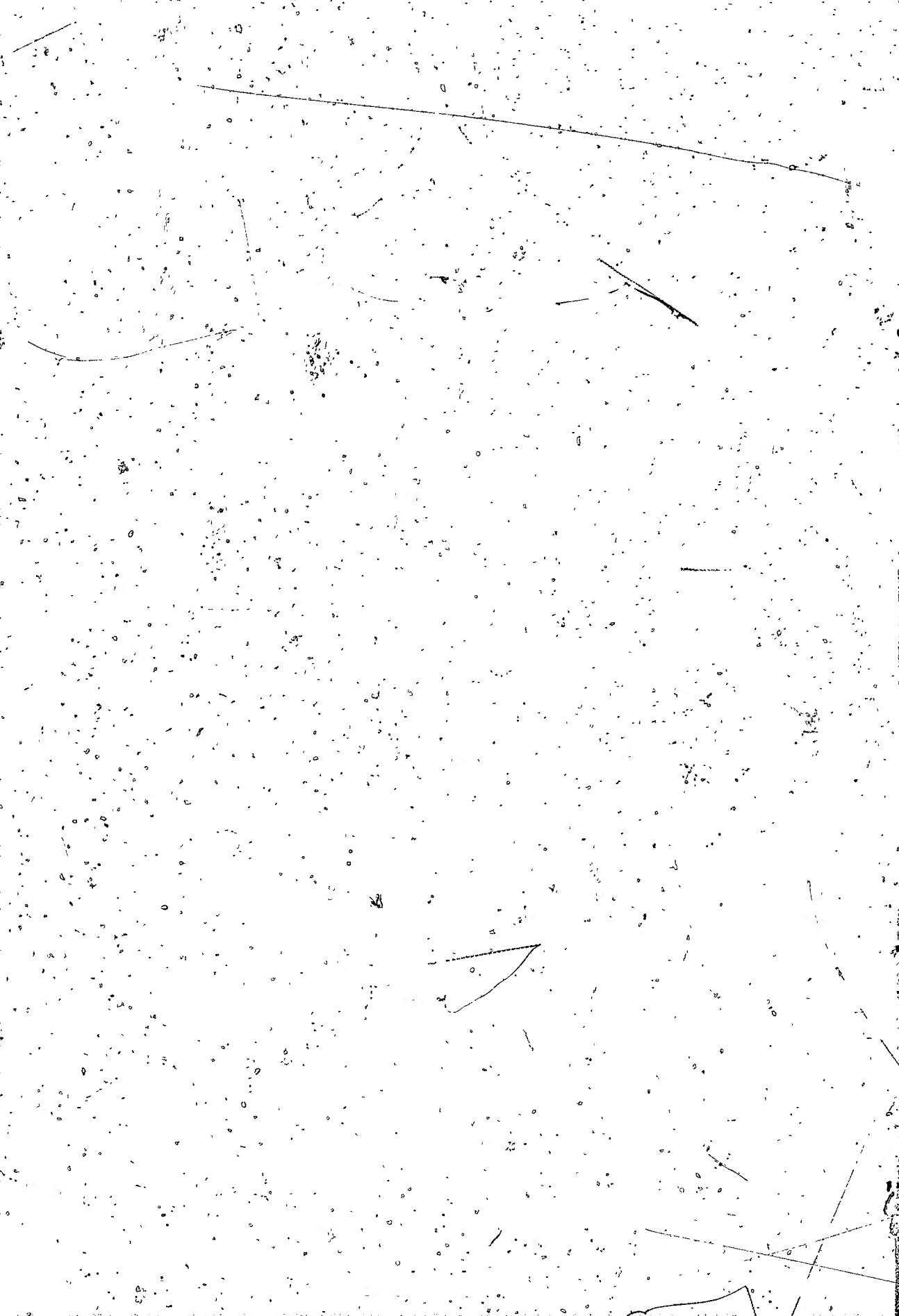


no other country under the sun. It requires no argument to show any one that grain growing could not have been conducted to any extent in that country until a means of export was at hand, and that was not offered until the year 1880, when the Canadian Pacific Railway secured its footing in that country. To be explicit I may remark that the first bushel of wheat was sent from that country—a sample only—in 1877, and production and exportation had not set in to any extent until the railway was there as an outlet, three years later. If, then, we have, as the American millers say we have, (and they, in this instance at least, give the unvarnished facts) an increase in yield in 25 years from nothing to 60,000,000 bushels it shows the producing capabilities are there, and that when there is now “the greatest rush in the history of American farmers to secure wheat lands there,” the farmers of this country fully understand it. Nor can this be otherwise. Seven-eighths of the farm lands of that country have cost the settlers thereon but \$10 for a homestead entry fee. Of the remaining one-eighth bought from railway companies, the Hudson Bay Company and other land corporations, the upset price may be placed at \$5 per acre, some few farms costing more, but the great bulk of them even much less.

#### LARGE RETURNS FROM SMALL OUTLAY.

Averaged up, however, it may be said these results are occurring yearly in a country whose lands have cost the settlers less than \$1.00 per acre. It is estimated year in and year out that wheat growing in that country costs but \$7.50 per acre. This is varied slightly at times by the cost of seed grain and distances of the farm from market. As the yield for the past 10 years has averaged over 20 bushels to the acre and the price about 65 cents per bushel, sometimes \$1.00, but often again less, the gross receipts are \$13 per acre for wheat growing, leaving the farmer, if he hires everything done, a net profit of \$5.50 per acre, enough to pay for a farm out and out in one year, when bought from land corporations. If the farmer does his own work he earns wages for himself and team into the bargain. With a knowledge of these facts before them it is nothing strange for the millers of Western America to say there is the greatest rush in the

The crop  
everywhere  
is easily  
marketed.



history of the American farmers to secure wheat lands across the boundary line. The traveller from the east in search of wheat, more finds at Port Arthur one of the largest elevators in the world. It is capable of storing 7,000,000 bushels. The entire storing capacity of that town is nearly 15,000,000 bushels, and an entire storing capacity in all the elevators of the country, scattered over the immense plains, of 40,778,000 bushels. As there are 1,620 elevators over the 6,000 miles of railway in the country, with one or more at every depot where there is grain to be sold, and with one or more buyers at each, the public can see there is no scarcity of storage or markets for all the farmer has to dispose of, in the grain line at least.

### WHEAT CAN BE GROWN IN EVERY DISTRICT.

Unlike some other prairie countries, wheat can be successfully grown in every district of the country, though, of course, in some parts more satisfactorily than in others. On account of the Chinook winds in southern Alberta and southwestern Saskatchewan it was thought some years ago that there could not be a sufficient rainfall for successful cropping, but for the past few years the excellent crop returns in the district referred to, would indicate that the drouth at one time experienced does not materially affect cereal growth; but even this disability, if it existed, is being overcome by irrigation, which from the character of the country and the course of the rivers and streams costs from 50 cents to \$2.00 per acre—large areas being watered at the former figure.

In the north and eastern parts of the country on account of the land being more rolling, and better wooded, mixed farming—that is live stock, dairying and grain growing—is carried on most successfully.

Mixed farming carried on successfully.

A large central belt across the country diagonally from south-east to northwest, is termed the great wheat-growing belt. It is easily a half larger than any other grain-growing belt in the world. It includes about 150,000,000 acres, five-sixths of which can be cropped, it is so free of irregularities in the surface.

To the present there has been no actual statement as to what area of the entire country can be brought under the plow, but it is



generally conceded that one-half of the whole or nearly 200,000,000 acres can be so handled, and the greater part of the rest of it can be used for pasture. Some of it is woodland and other districts considerably broken by hill and lake. A very low estimate, by allotting a farmer with four of a family on every 320 acres (a half section), places from three to four millions of souls on the land with as many more in the cities and towns in the other callings of life, or a total population of some 8,000,000. As there are now but about 800,000 people over the entire face of the country, or 10 per cent. of what it is capable of comfortably locating, even with sparse settlement, it is evident that the work of settlement, rapid and extensive as the rush has been, has only been commenced.

### THE GRANARY OF THE WORLD.

Supposing the rate of yield of the past, 20 bushels of wheat to the acre, should be continued, though it is certain to be exceeded when the frenzied operations of pioneering are overcome and the people adopt more improved methods, then the country can supply the shortage of Great Britain 20 times over. By that time the United States will be a considerable importer and those of the Americans who now settle on the Canadian prairies will then be feeding their relatives in this country who have preferred taking up their residences among the busy occupations of the manufacturing and commercial centres. Following the inevitable rule where progress is substantial, the four systems of railways in the country are sending out their branches to every agricultural settlement throughout the entire length and breadth of the wide agricultural belt. Such is the radiation that at present there are but few grain fields more than from eight to ten miles distant from a railroad. From the first of September every year, there is one continuous stream, day and night, all through the fall and winter, even until the new crop is ready again, of railway trains to and fro, carrying their cargoes of golden grain to the eastern elevators to be transhipped to vessels destined for the markets in the Old Country.

Continuous stream of golden grain to eastern markets.



Although the population of the whole prairie country is about 800,000 souls it is not wide of the mark to say that there are not more than 150,000 actual heads of farming families in it. It is generally estimated one-half the population of most countries lives in the cities, towns and villages, and again estimating three to a family on the farms and we find the figures as stated. When so few have accomplished such results as have been achieved, agriculturally speaking, in that country in so short a time, it must be acknowledged even by the most skeptical it is a land of wonderful possibilities. In 1904 it produced over 100,000,000 bushels of grain, nearly 60,000,000 of wheat and the remainder of oats, barley and other grains, and as there was a fifth more under crop in 1905, and the yield the largest and best in the history of the country, it is confidently expected the returns to the farmers will be simply immense. Threshing is now under way and wheat is turning out 25 bushels, and in many instances 35, 40 and even more to the acre of No. 1 hard and No. 1 northern. The indications force us to the conclusion that the aggregate yield of wheat for 1906 will not fall short of 90,000,000 bushels as there are 3,765,000 acres under crop and the other crops will be relatively large. With the cost to the farmer who hires everything done no more than \$7.50 per acre, and the price this year likely to be over 75 cents per bushel, every man can understand the profits of farming in that country this year will purchase a good farm, and stock it comfortably.

Yield of wheat last year was a record breaker.

### PLENTY OF GOOD LAND LEFT.

It does not, however remain for me, or men like me, to convince this audience, or any other audience for that matter, of the many advantages of the Canadian West; the continuous stream of emigration from this country, and most of the European countries and even the older provinces of Canada tells the story more eloquently than any man could do it from any public platform. "But," says one, "with all that the case, the country must now be pretty well filled up, there can be but little more good land left." There is no reason for such a surmise. It is quite true that all along the six thousand miles of railway now in operation in that country lands

Railways bring homesteads within easy reach of markets.

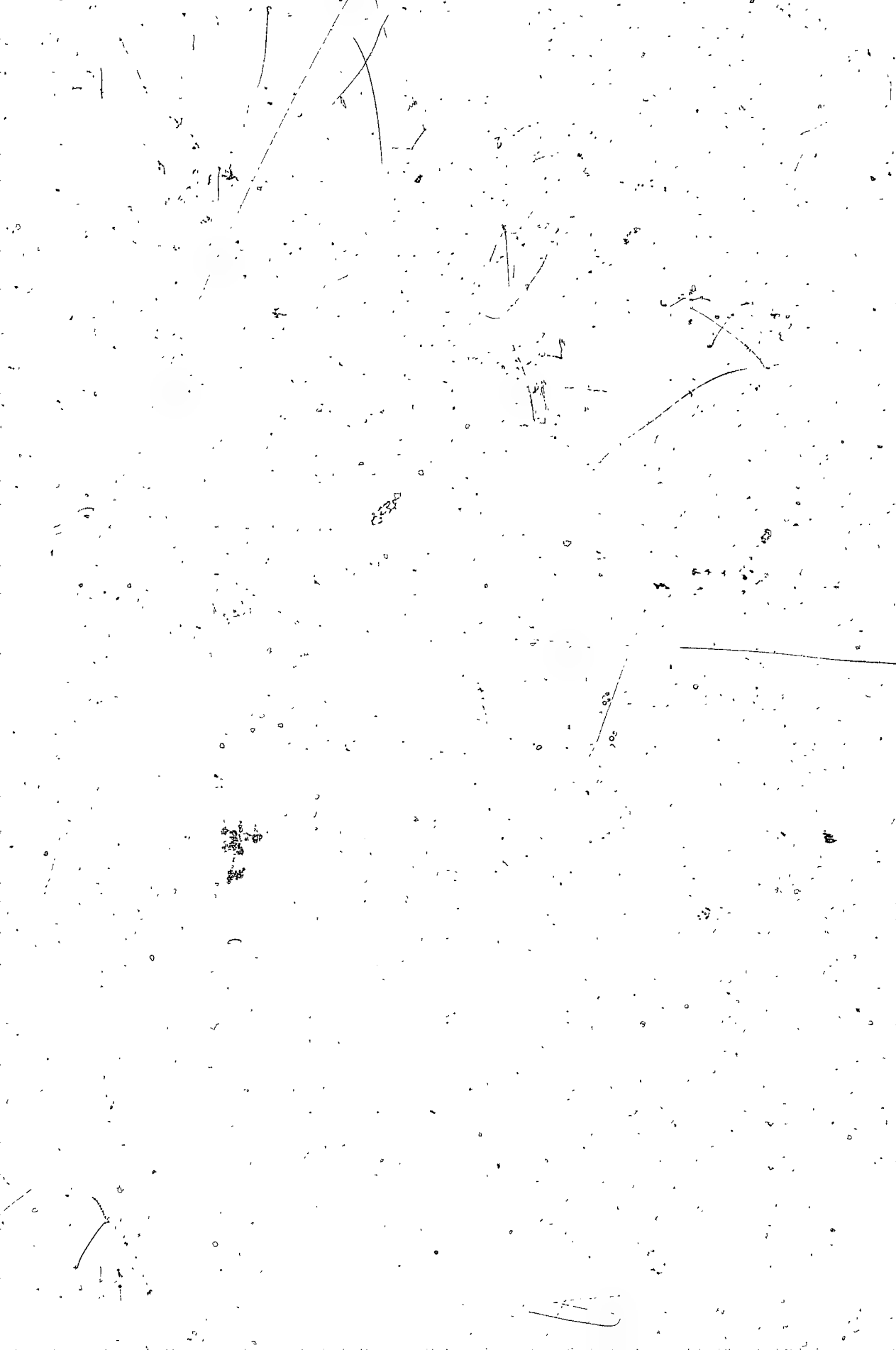




are pretty well taken up; but it is an immense country and there is no part of it in which agricultural operations cannot be carried on most successfully. Branches of the railways are being built into the outlying districts and bringing tributary to markets hundreds of thousands of homesteads fully as good as any that are now being served by railways. The wheat crop is always over 60 lbs. to the bushel and grows and matures in a shorter season by several days than in more southern latitudes. This is explained in this way. All farmers know that rain and moisture are the main essentials for vegetation; discovery has shown the farther north one goes until the pole is reached the longer the day grows. The longer sun in fewer days is therefore a full compensation for what is regarded as the advantages of more southern latitudes. Of course it requires a southern latitude and a long season to mature some crops, but with cereals of all kinds the modifying influences of higher latitudes are quite ample.

Even out in the Yukon country many hundred miles nearer the north pole than any portions of the Canadian West open for settlement, vegetables and the coarser grains are produced, and men who have made it a study say wheat will yet be acclimatised for successful growth. But we are not dealing in speculation or advising settlers to go to any remote regions; but merely to those parts of the world where civilization is fully established and all the productions of the farm have been fully developed for years—where there is no longer room for speculation. When I say that if a farmer were placed on every farm of 320 acres on the 200,000,000 acres of land in that country fit for successful farming operations, in cropping, dairying or ranching, it would take 700,000 farmers to occupy it; the 150,000 now there fill but a small portion of the country. I have stated before that less than 6,000,000 acres of the 200,000,000 available are under crop, so that only about 3 per cent. of the land has been taken, and when one reflects that such immense crops have been produced by so few people on such a small portion of the country available for crop, he becomes almost lost in a calculation of the great possibilities in store.

Room for  
half a million  
farmers, each  
with 320  
acres.



## RAILWAYS AND MARKETS.

If you take up a map showing the railways you will notice the four systems enter into the eastern part and are pushing their trunks westerly to the coast for through traffic, with numerous branches northwesterly to reach the agricultural lands, and that villages and towns are springing up at all stations, as fast as extensions are made. These are found necessary to meet the demand of farm settlers who are everywhere locating much in advance of the railways. The business houses of these villages supply all the needs of the farmers in every respect, the lumber for buildings, the horses for the farms, the implements and the grain elevators, and buyers to purchase the grain as soon as produced. Local farmers and dealers are always able to supply seed grain.

Four railway systems working their trunk lines westward.

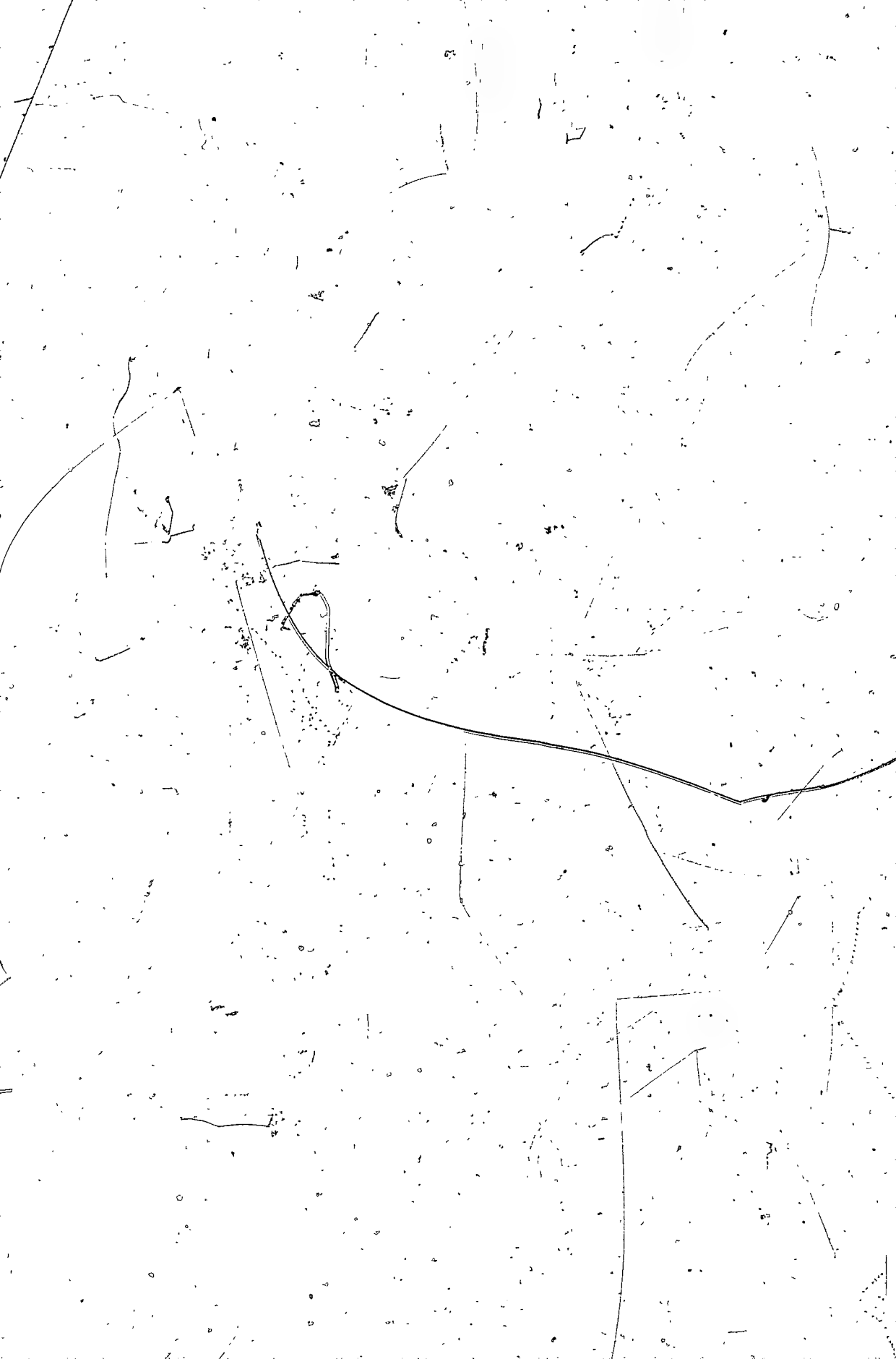
It is not alone in unsurpassed producing capabilities that the Canadian West is specially favored. It is in location for disposal of products as well. The rapid influx of settlers calls for a small percentage of the wheat and flour produced in the country, a larger proportion of the horses, cattle, potatoes, roots and coarse grains for seed and supplies till they in turn become producing; but British Columbia to the west and New Ontario to the east, large mining and lumbering districts in which but little agriculture is prosecuted, are always extensive buyers. The increase of population in European countries will always require the surplus of wheat, flour, beef, pork, and dairy products, but the mining countries I have named will always stand as extensive and profitable markets for such products as are expensive to ship long distances. This is a fitness of things as if furnished by the wisdom of Nature's great architect.

## RECAPITULATION.

Let me recapitulate.

The climate and soil are all that can be desired.

The government will always be what the people themselves make it, as the ballot in the hands of all male British subjects over 21 years of age, controls the situation.



The subsidies from the Dominion to the provincial legislatures will always be ample to defray most of the cost of government, including the support of schools and public institutions, thus assuring low taxation for all time.

Railways and all other necessities of advancing civilization are being constructed as fast as men and money can supply them, and rates or charges for freight and passenger traffic are held in check by legislation.

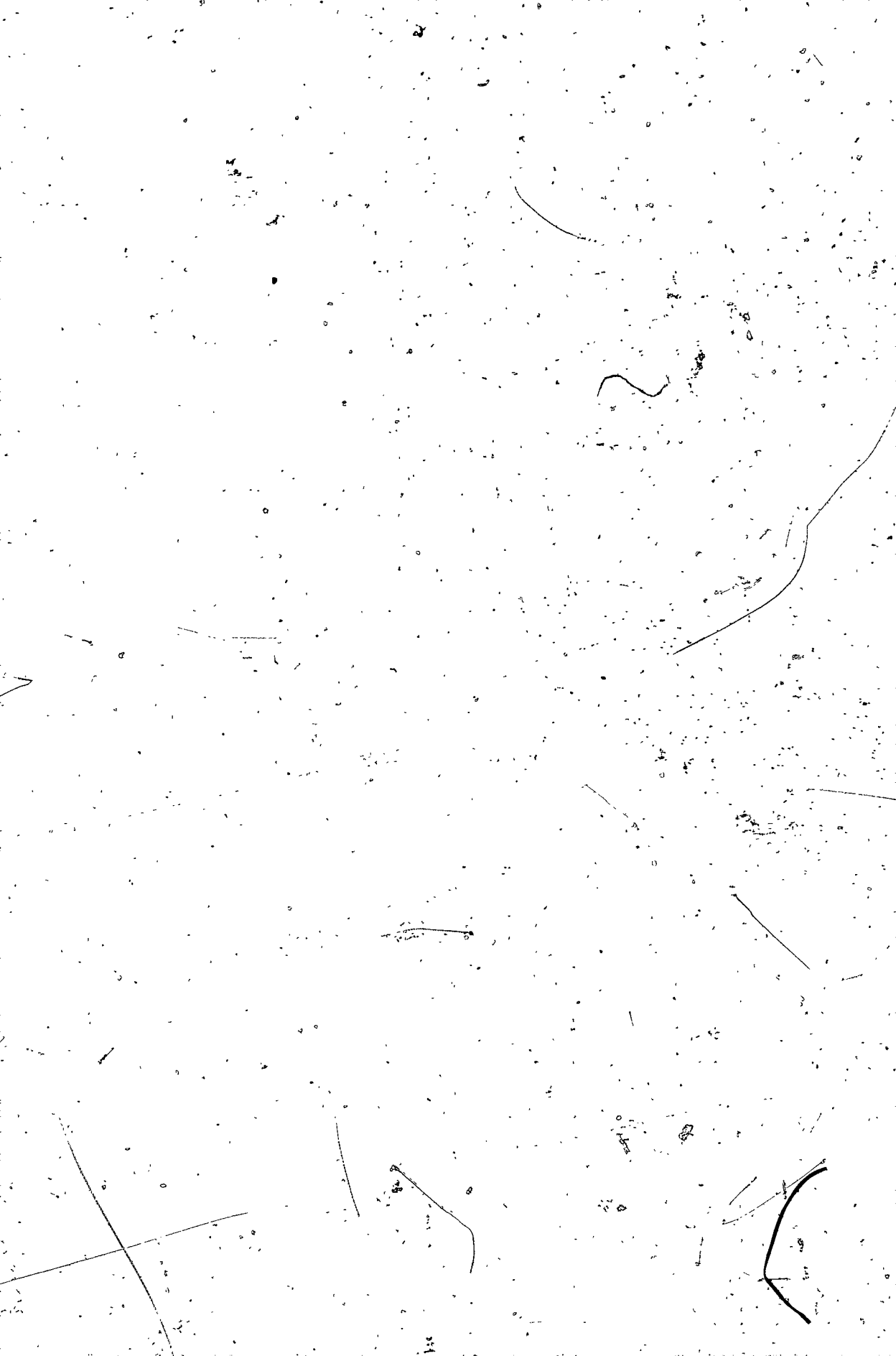
Plagues and pestilences such as prevail in many southern countries are unknown.

Plagues and  
pestilence  
are unknown

An ample supply of fuel for all purposes for all time is assured by the coal mines throughout the country. Good water for man and beast is supplied by the streams and lakes everywhere intersecting the country and can be got in all parts in wells at from 10 to 30 feet in depth.

Cheap lumber is guaranteed by the numerous timber forests of British Columbia and New Ontario, and the best of land is to be had for nothing.

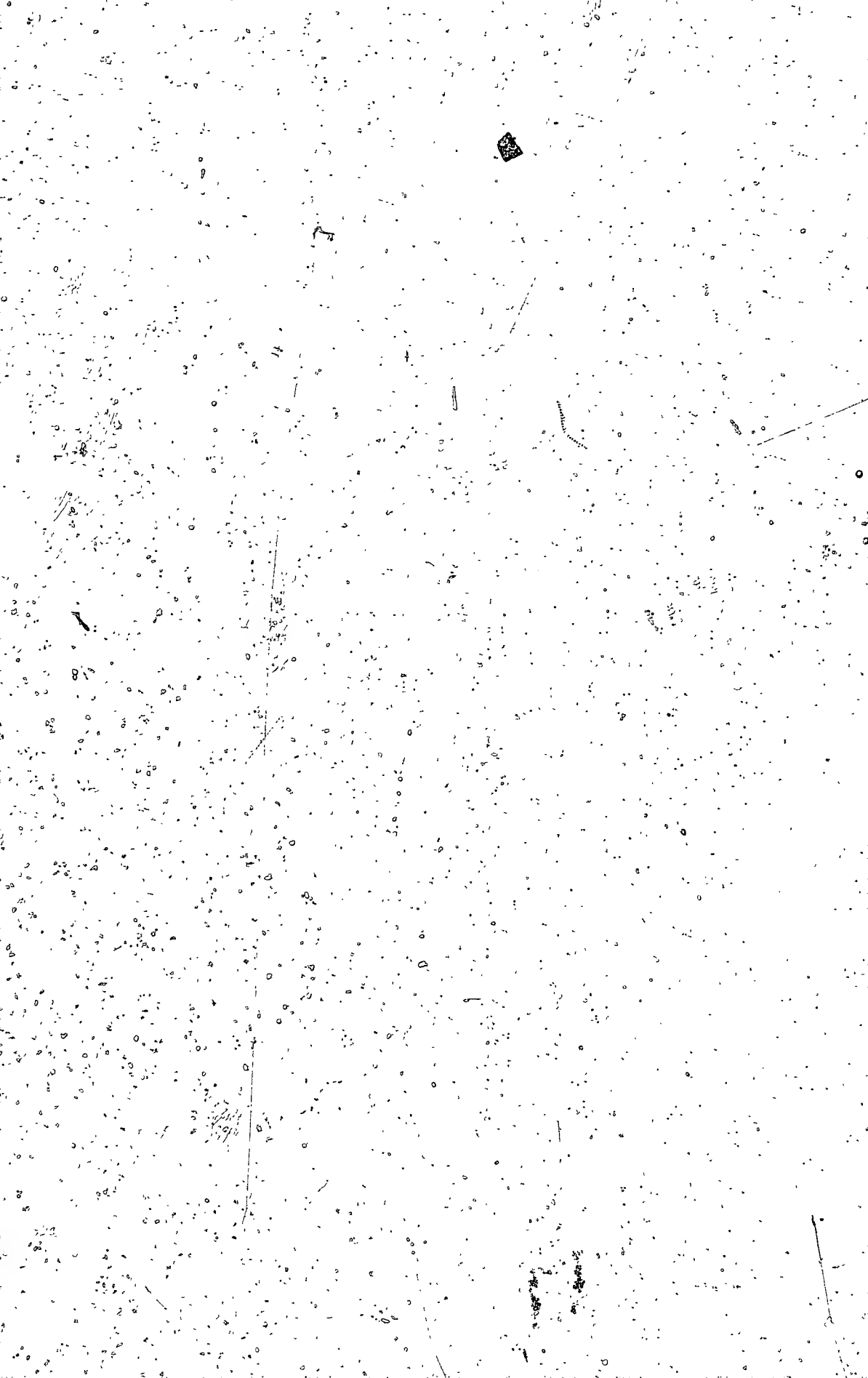
What more can any industrious man, who desires by industry and economy to hew out a competency for himself and his family in a few years, desire. It cannot, of course, be done by farming with kid gloves on, but it can be done by care, industry and habits of economy. The only question now for me to submit to all present is this: "Will it or will it not pay you to sell out your farms for which you can get a reasonable sum and move all your effects, cattle, horses, implements, household goods, etc., to these lands, put your money into buildings, seed grain and other essentials of settlement and pioneering, and in a few years be independent and enjoy all the comforts of progress and civilization."



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# LECTURE II.

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## LECTURE II.

GENTLEMEN:—

All students of Roman history have read that "all Gaul was divided into three parts," and this is the case with the Canadian West at the present time. It is known to many present that the Canadian Government paid \$1,500,000 to the Hudson's Bay Company in 1869, not for the purchase of the country, as that company never owned it, but to extinguish certain trading rights they possessed from the English Crown for many years to come. As soon as the Canadians made the payment, the country was handed over to the Canadian Government by proclamation of the Imperial Government. The next act of the Canadian Government was to create the eastern portion of the country into a province—Manitoba—and give it full provincial responsibilities. The rest of the country was later created into four territories—Athabasca, Sackatchewan, Alberta, and Assiniboia—with one primitive form of government for the whole. In fact the division of territory was more a matter of name than anything else, as there was but little distinction between the several sections of country. At the 1905 session of the Federal parliament these four territories were constructed into two provinces and given full responsible government, thus constituting the whole Canadian West at the present as three provinces with all the powers and privileges of self government that are accorded to the older portions of the country. Everything that has been dealt with heretofore in any of the Government publications on the country, or in the press, may now be construed as dealing with one or more or all of these three provinces.

The three  
Provinces in  
the West.

### EXTENT.

The average reader may think that from all that has been said and written of the land, it must be pretty well taken by this time, or that at least most of the best of the lands are under occupancy,

200,000,000  
acres can be  
put under  
crop.



but the contrary is the fact, and a very few words will carry conviction on that point. Any one can see by looking at any of the published maps, after considering latitude and longitude, that it is a country of vast extent, and a little calculation will show the curious that it comprises well onto 400,000,000 acres, mostly prairie, but in some districts carrying forests of considerable magnitude, especially in the higher latitudes. As there are only about 800,000 people yet in the country, one-half of whom are farmers, having an area of a little less than 6,000,000 acres under crop, it will readily be seen that settlement, considering the area, has but just commenced. It is estimated that of the entire area at least one-half, or 200,000,000 acres, can be put under crop, which, figured out, shows that less than 3 per cent. of the whole has so far been touched by the plow.

As farming goes, on a well-improved place, about one-half goes under the plow, the other half remaining in pasture, woodland, building sites, etc., which would convey the idea that about 6 per cent. of the country is taken up. There is really more than that, because there are many locations made, on which to the present but little cultivation has been done. Perhaps all told, however, from 12 to 15 per cent. of the country has been taken up for settlement. There is of course more than that portion passed out of the hands of the Government, as railway and other corporations own land there, but that is open for purchase and settlement.

The country has three great leading industries, or as some may put it, one divided into three great subdivisions, that is: agriculture—under the heads of live stock, dairying, and grain growing. From the very nature of things each one of these is strong and especially characteristic of the country.

If I were to speak critically, I should say Alberta was the cattle, or live stock, district; centre or southern Saskatchewan and southern Manitoba, the wheat growing district; and northern Saskatchewan, Manitoba and Alberta, the dairying, or, more properly speaking, the mixed farming, section of the country. As a matter of fact each one of the three branches of the business is carried on in every section of the whole country with marked success, but the several features predominate respectively in the three districts, as

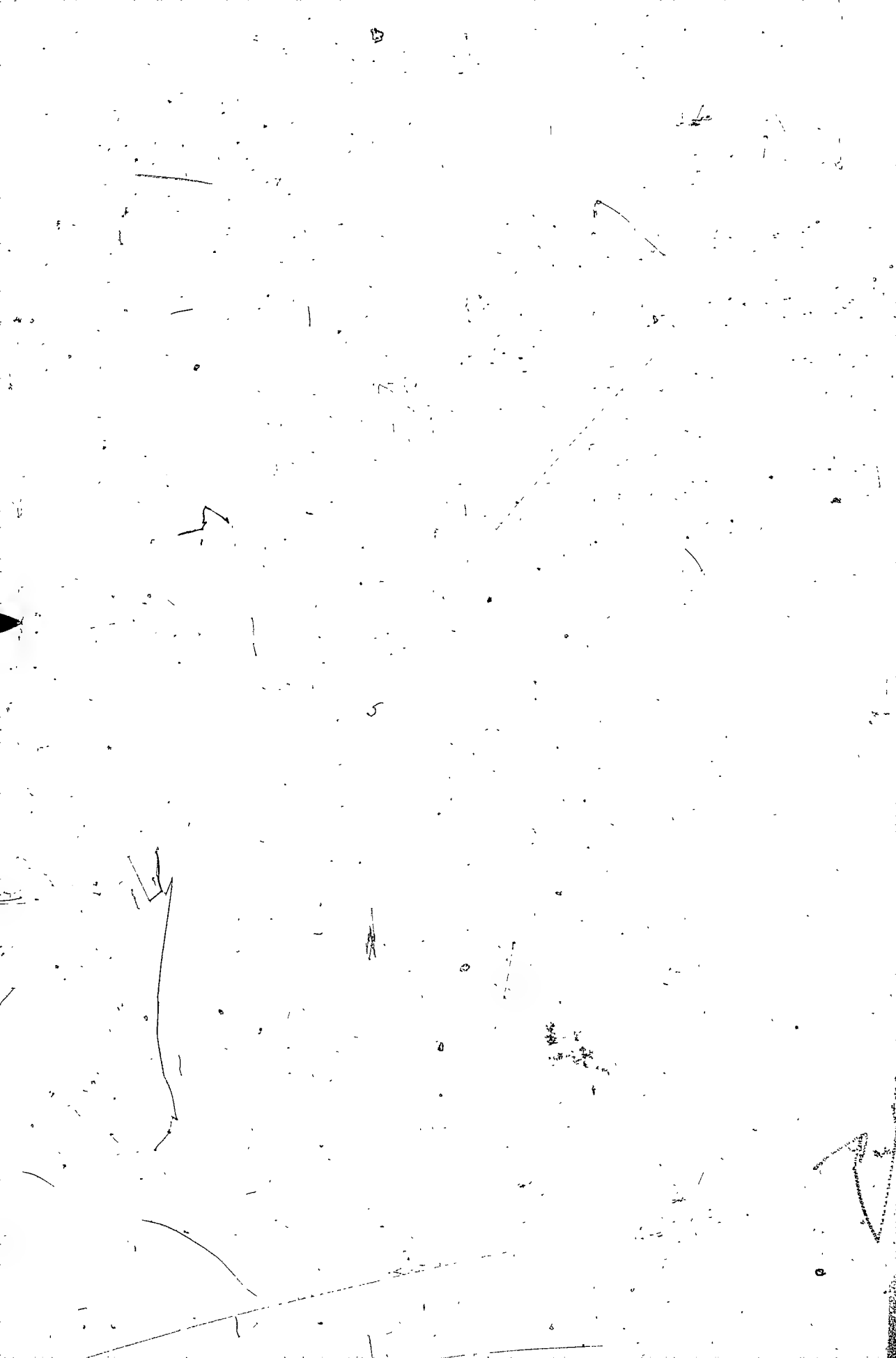


stated. Wheat, the great staple, can be grown everywhere, with varying success. Within the past two years winter wheat growing in what was known as the arid and semi-arid belts has been somewhat extensively carried on.

### LIVE STOCK.

In portions of Alberta, the western province, and more especially in the southern sections, the rainfall in the summer season is not always ample for the successful production of grain crops, and irrigation is resorted to. This costs from 50 cents to \$2.00 per acre, according to the supply of streams and the lay of the country. It is not to be supposed it will be resorted to generally while there is so much free land in other parts of the country with ample rainfall for all agricultural purposes. As a result, cattle ranging, or ranching, is adopted in its stead and with, in every instance, most gratifying results. Already as many as 50,000 head of cattle, 4,500 horses, 18,000 sheep, and 40,000 hogs are exported in a single year. This does not include slaughter for home use or the large number of all classes of live stock sold annually to new settlers to stock their homesteads. It is safe to say that the sale, year in and year out, for the last few years amounts to \$4,000,000, and that largely from a limited number of ranchers in the west. One thing that will always enhance the value to the consumer is the very extensive demands of the mining district of British Columbia. There will ever be a valuable market, not only for the live stock of the Canadian West, but the dairy, the poultry and products, the roots and vegetables, and a percentage of the flour and coarse grains of that country as well. Nature has in this instance, as well as in many others, made a wise adaptability of conditions. British Columbia, just across the Rocky Mountains, supplies the fruit required in the Canadian West, and the Canadian West in turn supplies all the products of the farm required by British Columbia; each then supplies the other, and, as they lie side by side, at the lowest cost in freight. In the west, or more particularly the south-western part of the country, the Chinook winds, named after the Chinook Indians of British Columbia, from across the Rocky Mountains,

Raising live stock is a paying industry.



melt the snows of winter almost as rapidly as they fall, and so temper the weather of the season that cattle roam around all winter, pick up their own living from the well preserved grass on the prairies, and come out in the spring often looking as well as those carefully stall-fed in other parts of Canada. This reduces the cost of cattle keep to a minimum and renders ranching a most profitable business, as ranch cattle double every three years. In the eastern and northern portions of the country, where the snows lie all winter, winter feeding, as in other parts of the continent, has to be resorted to. As, however, stables are cheaply made from timber and straw by the pioneer, bank buildings by the older settler, and an abundance of feed in native grass can be had for the cutting, and turnips, corn, etc., easily grown, cattle feed in any part of the country is quite inexpensive. This renders live stock a very important item in the assets of the well-conducted farm.

### DAIRYING.

As time rolls on, dairying is growing to be another very important item in the agricultural development of the Canadian West. Certainly a proper commencement has been made. The government has established schools at which dairying on scientific and advantageous lines is taught. Students attend from all parts of the country and when they become properly trained, not only theoretically but in actual practical work as well, they are placed in charge of dairies wherever the people require them. The government lends money to build and equip these institutions, and places them in charge of these scientifically trained managers. The farmers then have only to take their milk or cream to these government-managed dairies, receive advances from month to month according to their deliveries and accept the balance of proceeds at the close of the season. There are several advantages in having the work conducted in this way. In the first place, the farmers are saved the expense of building on their own account suitable buildings for the operations; it secures the best results from the milk supplied; it secures the best prices for the manufactured product in being carried from month to month until the market is most favorable. With

Farmers receive advances from month to month.





cattle raising so inexpensive on account of the cheapness of feed, in the hands of government operatives, dairying promises to become a very profitable branch of agriculture in the country.

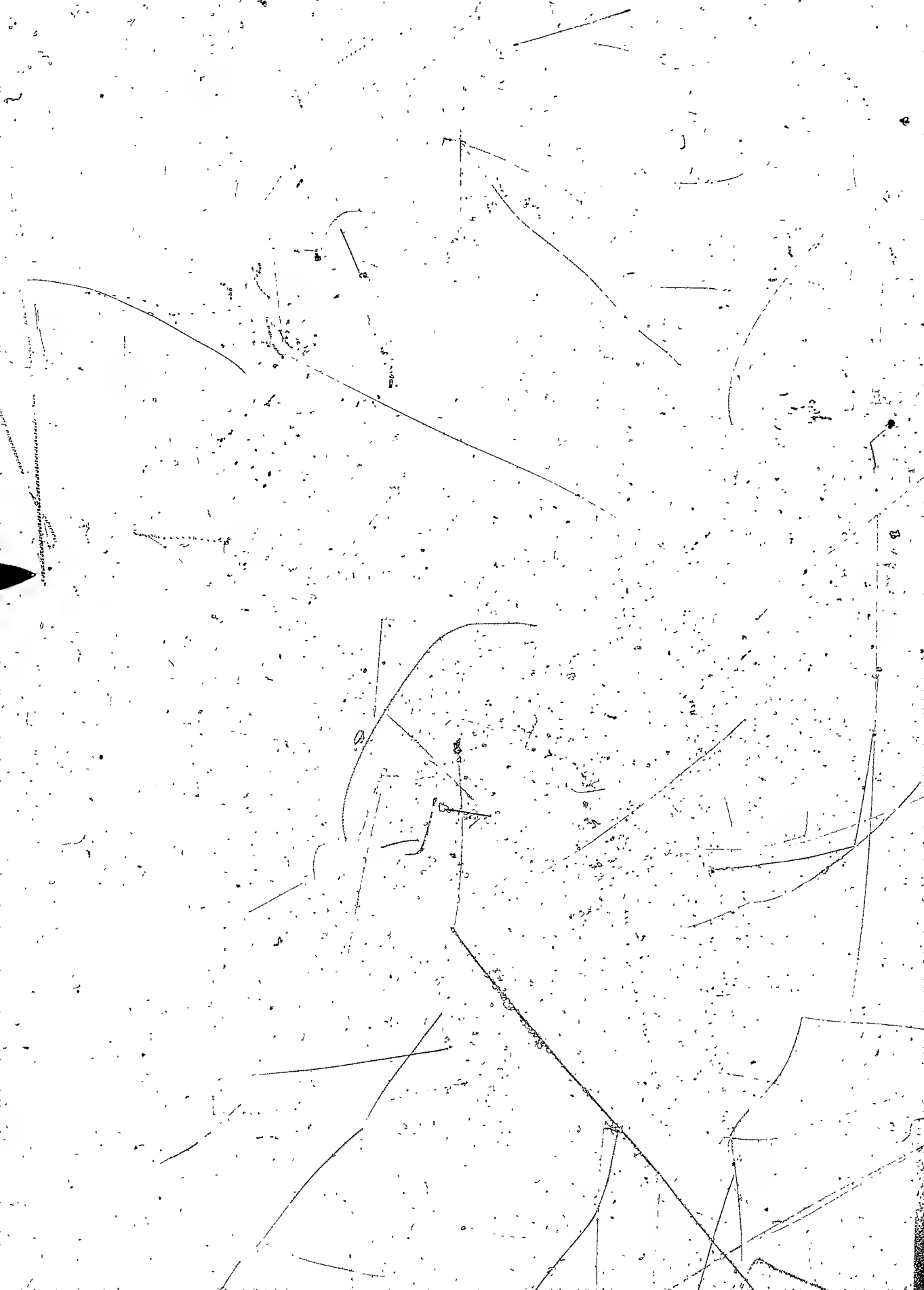
### CROPPING.

Wheat growing, as nearly every one knows, is the principal employment of the people of the Canadian West, almost irrespective of locality.

Farming has  
passed the  
experimental  
stage

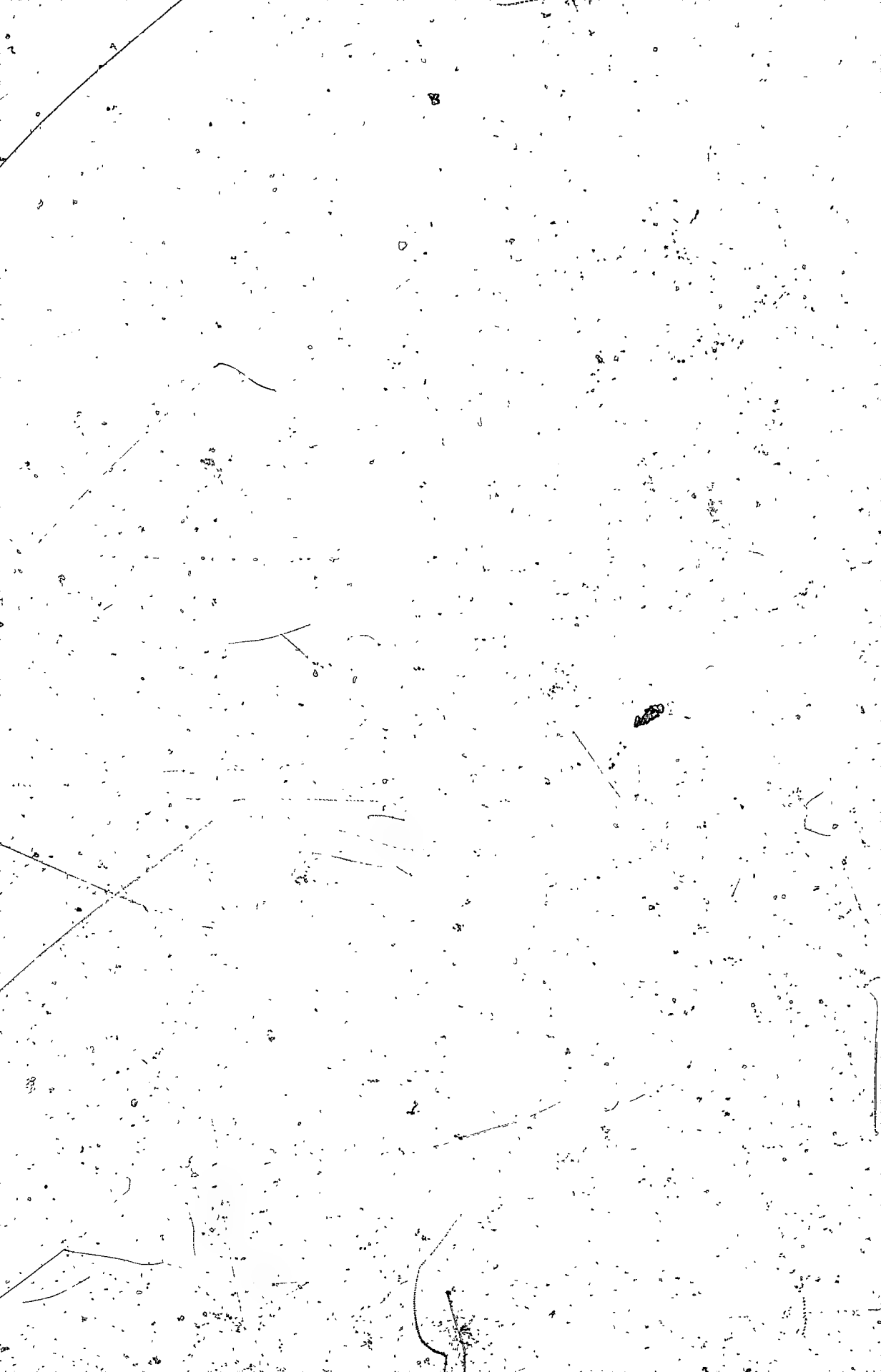
As in all prairie countries the land is everywhere ready for the plow as soon as it is taken up by the settler—there are no roots of trees or stones in the way of the plow anywhere. Breaking the ground is, of course, the first operation, but it has to be done but once and is therefore an exceptional expenditure; once done it is done for all time. The regular operations then follow, the same as in farming anywhere.

There used to be a time when farming in the Canadian West was regarded by the outside world as an experiment, but the name the country has made for itself in all agricultural lines, not only on the continent of America but in every corner of the old world as well, has settled that point for ever. Western Canada's No. 1 hard wheat, its prime beef and superior dairy products have made a name for it that will never fade, but be continually on the rise, and in so short a time! The year 1877 saw the first bushel of wheat exported from that country, and then but a sample. As the railway did not reach it until three years later there was no export of any magnitude until then, and such a change! This year there will be about 75,000,000 bushels exported, much of which will go to the Old Country, though a percentage will be purchased by the mill owners of Minneapolis and other cities of this country; and apparently this new market for western Canadian wheat is only in its infancy. One has only to look at the reports of any of the conventions of the mill owners of the United States and it will be seen there is an ever increasing demand for western Canadian wheat in this country. The milling capabilities of this country are considerably in excess of the production, and the difference is sure to continually grow apace. American capital must secure investment and as the wheat growing capabilities of this country are rapidly reaching their limit, there will be no cure



but to import Canadian wheat, not only because of its supply, but as well because of its superior quality, a quality which is required to produce the grade of flour needed in the best American as well as foreign markets. But Canadian production is ever on the increase. The 150,000 settlers reaching the country annually—a large percentage of whom by the way (and which shows their good judgment) being from the United States, regardless of state and locality—are adding 25 per cent. annually to the ever increasing cropped area of the country. This year, in the three provinces considered, the area under crop was 5,690,000 acres, which is giving over 90,000,000 bushels of wheat, 60,000,000 bushels of oats, with barley and other crops in proportion. When it is considered the farmers rarely realize less than \$5.00 per acre clear profit on their operations over all expenses, the importance of the industry in the country, and the openings there are for millions more yet to come, will be duly appreciated. But I will put this in a more practical form, for more minute consideration. As I said before, the breaking of the virgin prairie is an exceptional expenditure—once done it is done for ever. After this the cost to the farmer who hires everything done, from the ploughing to the delivery at the elevator, is less than \$7.50 per acre. The figures vary slightly by the price of seed wheat, and one or two other items, but this is the average. As the crops for the last 10 years have averaged 20 bushels to the acre, making allowance for the few small areas that have been in different years affected by hail-storms, and as the price has run about 65 cents per bushel or \$13.00 per acre, the profits have been in excess of the figures I have quoted. Of course, the farmer who does all or a portion of his own work receives wages for his time in addition to the profits I have mentioned. This would mean over 60 per cent. profit on the cost of his operations. There is by some young men a rush for mercantile pursuits, but fortunate and capable indeed must be the merchant who realizes anything like this profit in his annual turn over of business operations. While I have brought on this illustration I may say that the commercial agencies report that less than 6 per cent. of all who engage in the mercantile pursuits succeed, while every day observation shows that less than 20 per cent. absolutely

Agriculture  
is a safe and  
remunera-  
tive calling.

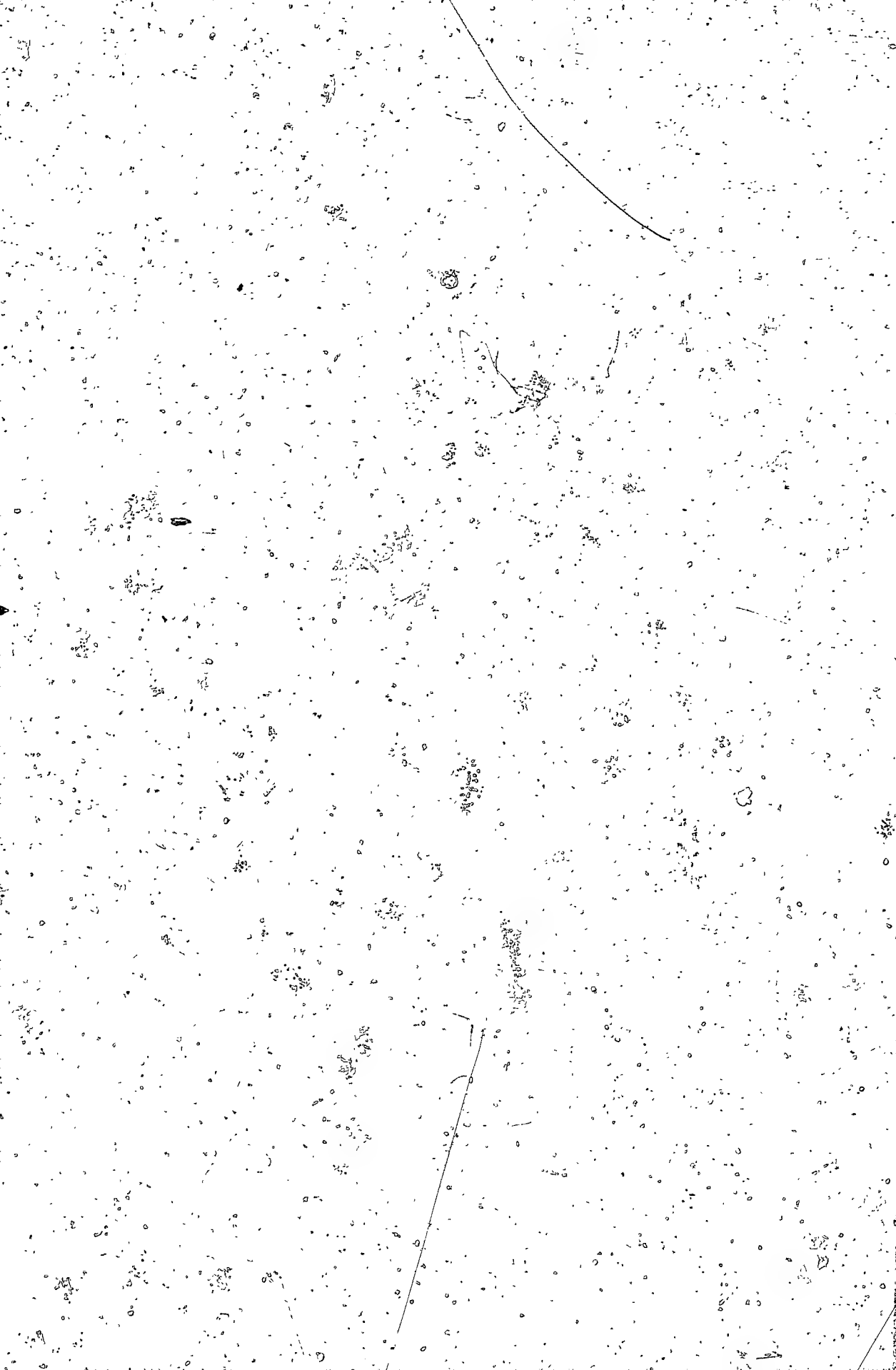


fail in agriculture, and some, of course, by having more capital or through paying closer attention to their business than others make more out of it than their neighbors. But taken for all in all, with men and means as you find them, continued agriculture turns out to be the safest calling in which men can possibly engage. The main reasons for it are that the earth always yields some returns no matter how carelessly operations may be carried on, and the field is never a burden—there is always a market for whatever the farmer can produce, which is not always true of any other calling in this or any other country. I have intimated in my previous remarks that for natural reasons some of the western portion of Canada's prairies is better adapted to cattle raising than to the other branches of agriculture; that the centre is the ideal wheat growing belt and the east is managed best by combining all branches—cattle, dairy and cropping—though wise indeed is the settler in any district who takes up all three together, as they all grow well together and are making money when he is sleeping as well as when he is engaged in the usual pursuits of the day—

### SYSTEM OF GOVERNMENT.

I have but briefly stated that Canada is a land of unsurpassed freedom to the settlers. There was a time back in the history of Great Britain when the inhabitants of her colonies did not possess the freedom to which they were reasonably entitled, as was the case in this country when the several states of the Union were Crown Colonies of the British Empire. But Britons are not Bourbons—they can forget some things while they learn others. In the treatment of her colonies Great Britain has learned a great deal. To Canada she still sends over a Governor-General whose powers are defined and limited; but in all other respects the people of Canada are as free and as independent to select legislators and make laws for self-government as are any other people in any country in any part of the civilized world. They elect their legislative bodies, and parliaments under manhood suffrage; all religions are on the same footing, and in the west none are in any way state aided. All the public and high schools are free to the pupils attending or

An inexpensive and satisfactory form of government.



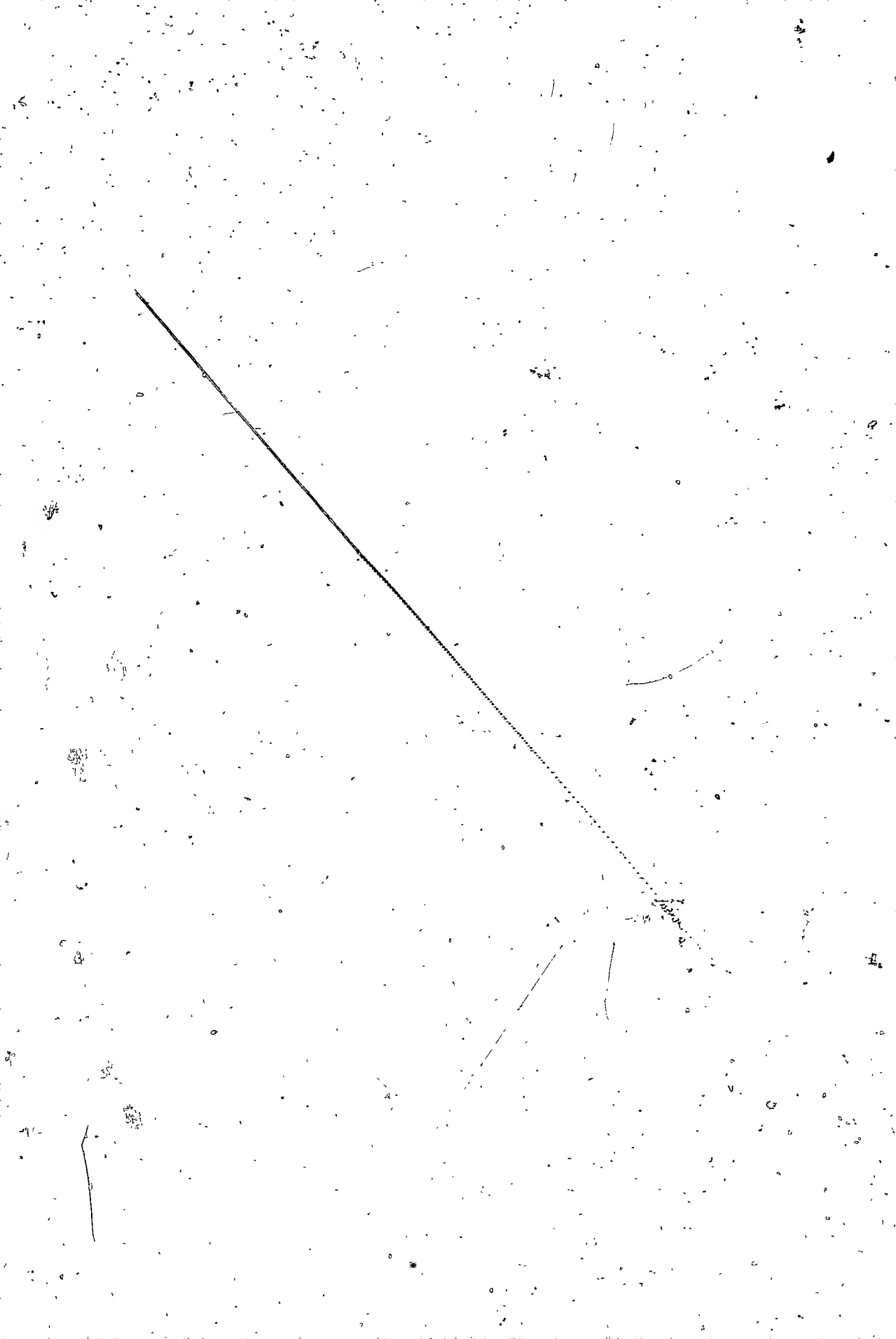
who desire to attend under highly proficient teachers, the land paying a very small tax in rural parts—about \$4.00 or \$5.00 a year per quarter section for school maintenance. Since the West was given provincial autonomy the Federal government assures an annual subsidy of almost three millions a year to the three provinces combined, to be increased as the population grows. This means about \$4.00 per head of the population of the country and this pays a large proportion of all the cost of local government, including the maintenance of schools.

### EVERYTHING WITHIN REACH.

Then, with a most productive soil, an exceptionally healthy climate, free and complete governing institutions, absolute assurance of safety to life and limb, protection to every citizen in everything he owns, the making and unmaking of all laws for self-government at will, the greatest immunity from taxation of any country in the world, a natural supply of the best fuel in the world at convenient distances to all settlers, a reasonable timber supply, coal everywhere at no point more than 200 miles distant from the most remote farmer, and within a day's haulage by teams to the most of them, and a network of railways reaching out to form settlements wherever formed, bringing with them grain buyers, merchants, post offices and all other accompaniments of advanced civilization, it leaves but little more to be desired. Now a word as to how the country is advancing, carrying practical assurances of success to any who may yet be skeptical or undecided as to what is or what is not in store for the Canadian West.

The conditions that exist cannot be excelled.

I mentioned at the outset that the first bushel of grain was exported in 1877, this year the wheat exported will be 75,000,000. In 1880, 25 years ago, the first mile of railway was built in the country, today the mileage is 6,000 under three systems, and the fourth, the Grand Trunk Pacific, a transcontinental project, under way besides—making in all about 11,000 miles. In 1870 there was but one branch of a bank in the country, and now there are 260. In 1880, there were but two grain elevators and two or three insignificant





flour mills in the country. Now there are 1,660 elevators with a capacity of 40,000,000 bushels, and flour mills in all the important towns in the country from east to west. Individuals may make investments at random, but railway companies, elevator men, and bankers are not fools, they are not disposed to make investments where there is not an assured field for successful operations.

### AREA FOR HOMESTEADING.

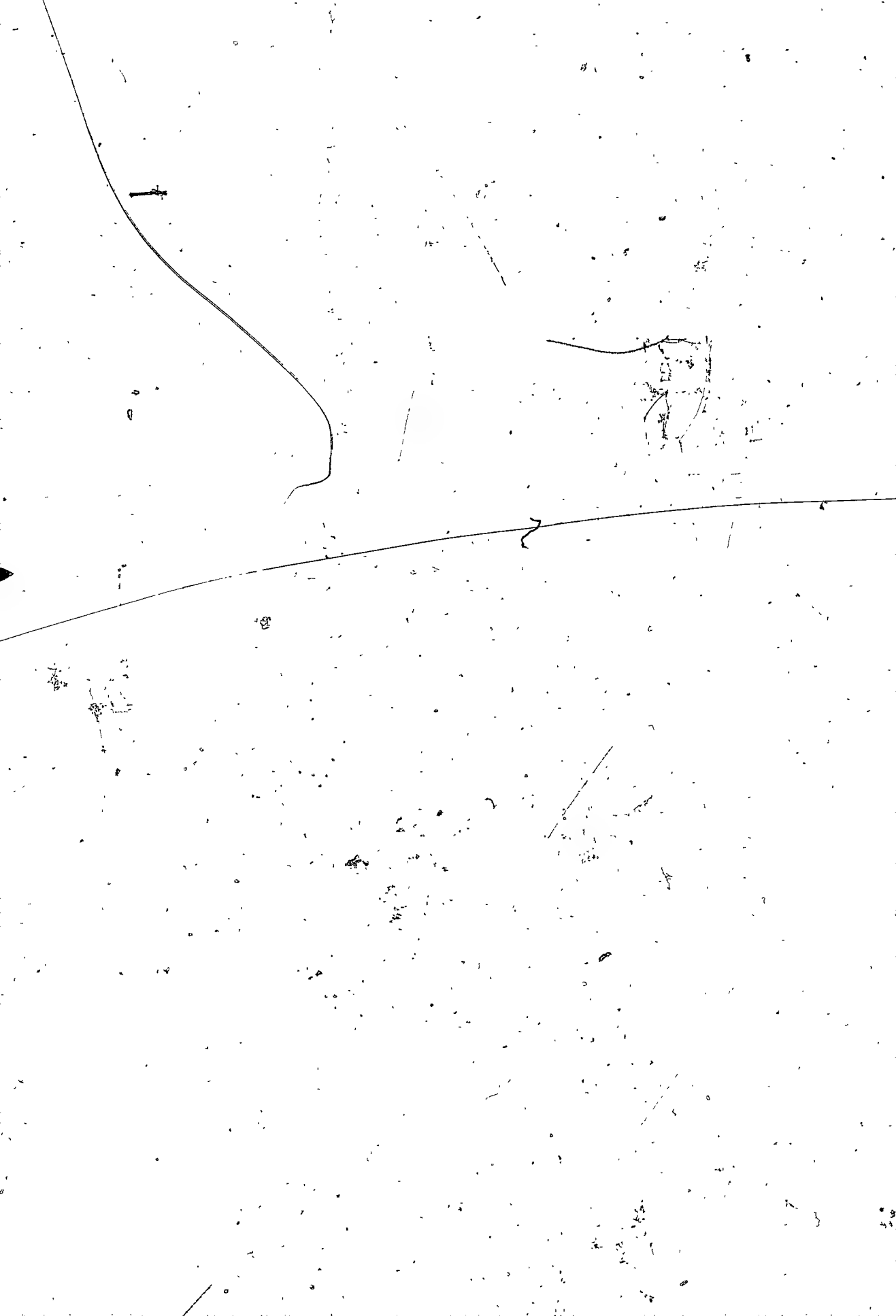
I have shown there are well on to 400,000,000 acres of land in the whole country, one-half of which can be profitably occupied. There are about 6,000,000 acres under crop and perhaps three times as much more, or say 20,000,000 altogether, taken up by settlers, which is about the one-tenth of what is reasonably fit for cultivation. I will not therefore say, as the mercantile advertiser or the auctioneer says, you must go at once or the bargains will all be taken up, as there will be land for settlement or sale in that country when all present have passed from the stage of action, but I will say the earlier men go the larger is their field for choice of location. There is a large area open for free homesteading, in many of the best localities of the country, but they are becoming more or less removed from railways, the free lands next the railways being first taken up; but, no matter how far from railways settlers locate, they are soon reached by some branch or other of the several lines that are now grasping for the trade of the country. Where settlers are willing to buy to locate near roads now built, they can always get choice properties from railway companies, land corporations, the Hudson's Bay Co. or other owners at from \$6 to \$10 per acre on the most favorable terms of payment.

Early settlers get the best selection of land.

In conclusion I may remark that young, unencumbered men, willing to take to farm life, can always find employment with farmers in that country until they have earned means enough to start for themselves. Men here or in other countries with encumbered properties can generally sell out for enough to stock a free homestead in that country and in a few years be independent; and, of course, men with means can buy in the most favored localities and be in easy circumstances from the start.



I have now briefly reviewed things as they are, though to give full particulars would take weeks of careful speaking or writing. The country is everywhere dotted with settlers from all countries and their assurances, to be had for the asking, will give any enquirer all further information as to facts as they are, in that ever growing and still more promising country.



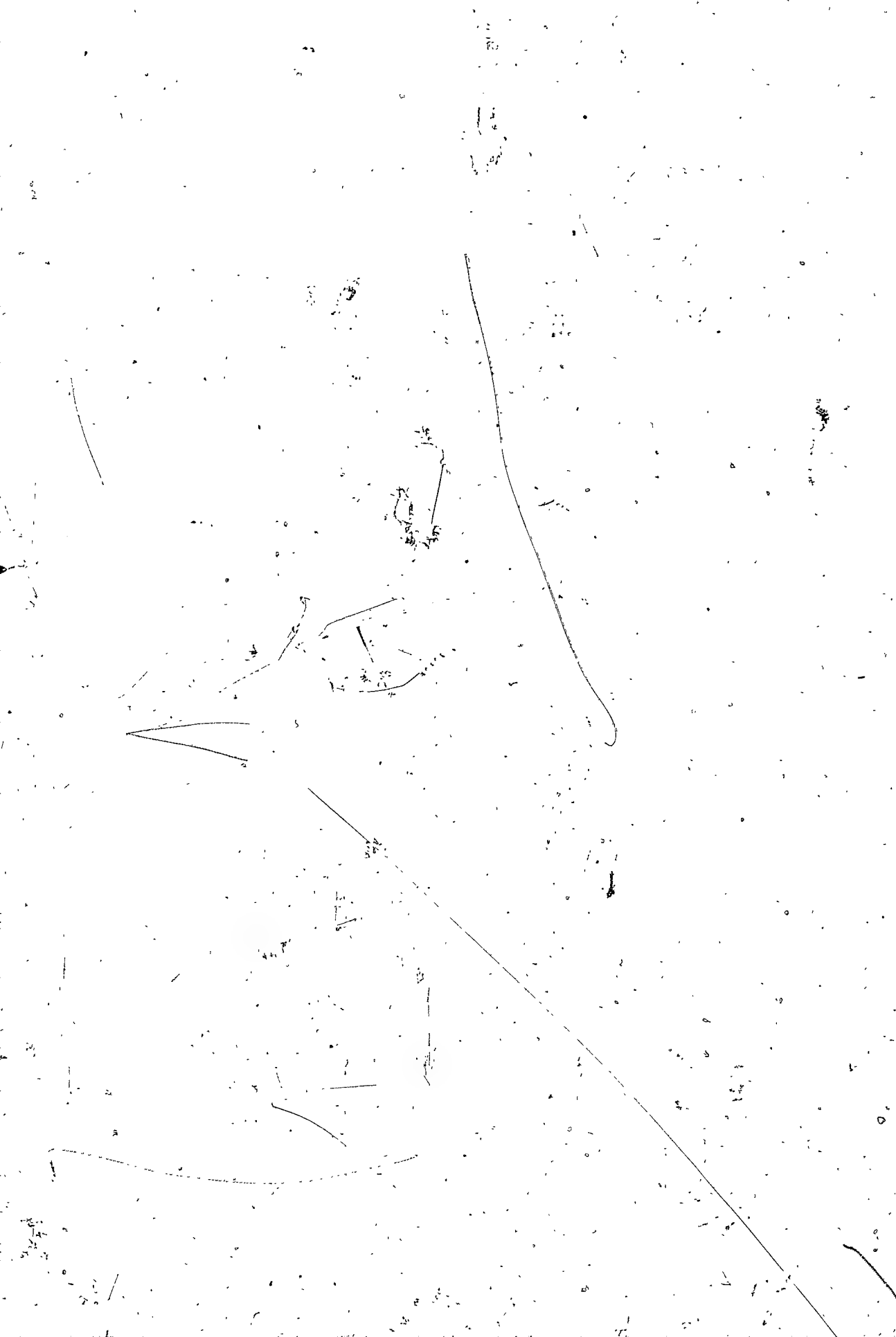
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# LECTURE III.

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## LECTURE III.

GENTLEMEN:—

As previously announced, I am here this evening to tell the people of this section something about the opportunities and capabilities of the Canadian West. It is not, of course, to be expected that any man, no matter how highly gifted, could do anything like justice to a subject of such magnitude in one short lecture; as a consequence the audience need not feel disappointed if I fail in giving them all the information that they desire. The Government of Canada has, however, issued several publications which fairly well cover the ground, and anyone perusing them carefully cannot fail to secure a fair insight into some at least, of the many advantages of that great country. I say many because they are numerous, and the country is one of immense magnitude.

The three provinces of Manitoba, Saskatchewan and Alberta, the two latter but recently organized, have a total area of nearly 385,000,000 acres, and within their bounds several of the States of the American Union, in so far as area is concerned, could be swallowed up in insignificance. The mind cannot readily grasp figures of such magnitude, but can better understand it by saying it could locate one million of farmers on farms of 385 acres each, or considerably over half a section. It is not necessary for me here to remark that one million heads of families farming means five millions of an agricultural community and easily as many more in all the other walks of life combined. But a farmer on every 385 acres is not more than half what a well settled agricultural country can contain. Settled up then with even average density the Canadian North-West can easily accommodate twenty millions of people, and as the present population is not in excess of 800,000, it requires but little more to show the immensity of the opportunities that still await the presence of enterprising settlers.

Northwest  
can easily  
accommod-  
ate 20,000,-  
000 of  
people.





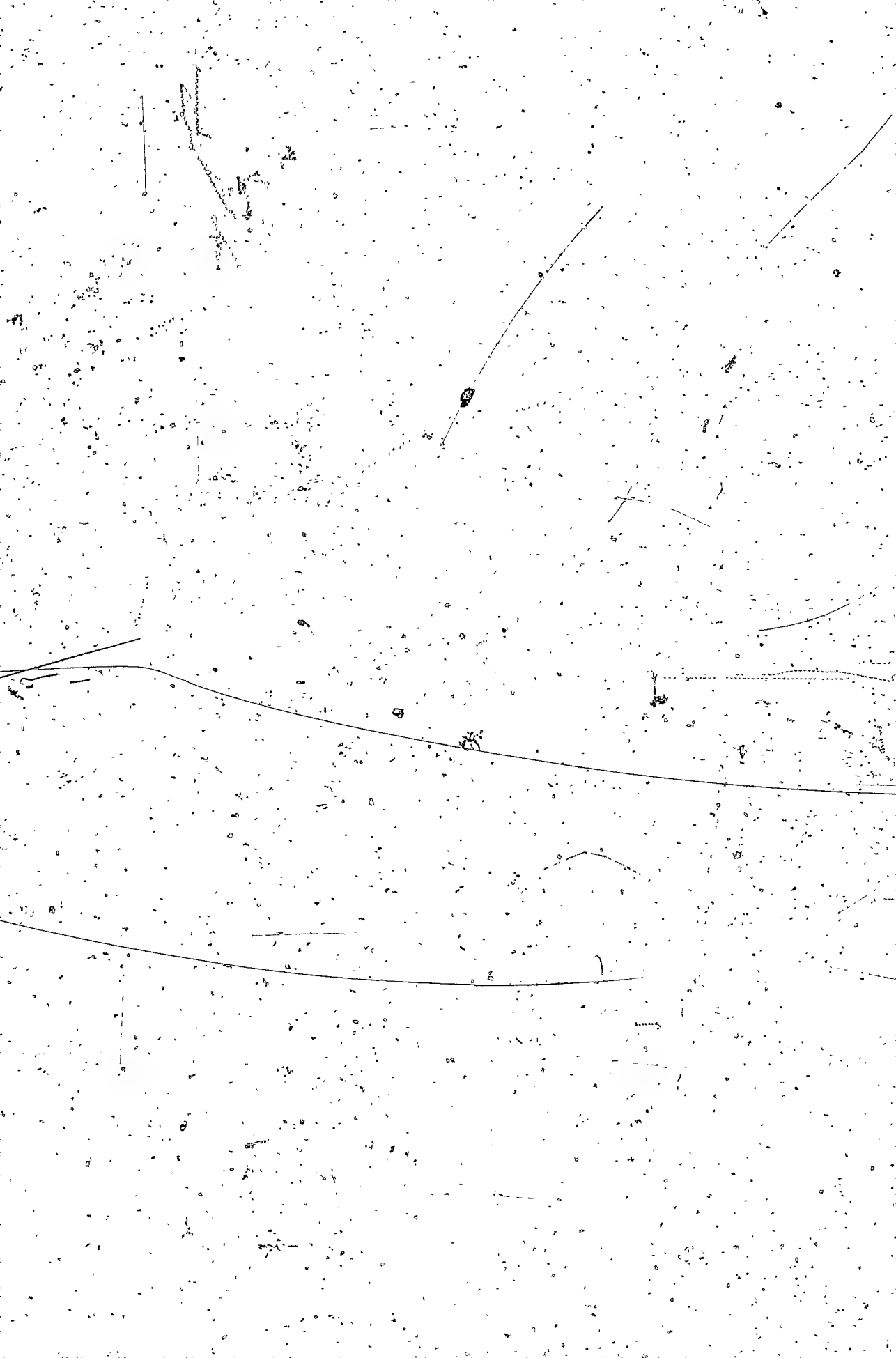
## A LAND OF OPPORTUNITIES.

Little more remains to be said in dealing with this particular side of the question. I suppose that in even the best settled and most prosperous communities of all older countries there is always a percentage of people who are on the look-out for opportunities to better their condition, and, if this be the case where people are doing very well, it must be infinitely more so in communities where they are not doing so well. The percentage in these must be very large indeed. I am not here to-night to give the people advice in any particular. I am here merely to show them how matters stand in the Canadian Prairie Country, making some references incidentally to circumstances here, to lay some facts before the audience as to conditions on both sides of the international line, and leave the people to draw their own conclusions. I have already shown that there is no danger during the next half century at least—although the rush of settlers to that country is unprecedentedly large and rapid—of overcrowding or overpopulating.

The great incentive of humanity for changing locations in life is gain, unless you can show a man he is going to make money by changing his residence you will have great difficulty in getting him to change; and still money should not be all; there are other considerations that are just as valuable as money, and to many more so. Sanitary surroundings that affect health and longevity, social surroundings, educational facilities to the man with a rising family, and good laws are, or should be of equal importance to opportunities for money making; and a sufficient study of the situation will convince the interested student that in all these respects there is no country on the face of the globe that surpasses the Canadian West.

It is not necessary for me to explain that in any new country where settlers are scattered and intercourse difficult of attainment there cannot be the same social commingling that is prevalent in denser settlements. All the same, however, there is scarcely a settlement in the country in which there are not social gatherings and entertainments of different descriptions to break the monotony of even pioneer prairie life, and as settlement increases the customs and usages of more advanced residence gradually appear.

Canadian  
Northwest  
surpassed by  
no other  
country.



## EDUCATION.

If there is any one thing more than another in which the average Canadian prides himself it is in the educational institutions of the country from one remote boundary to another. The educationists of the older provinces, and especially of Ontario, have carefully studied advanced features of the systems in vogue in Great Britain, the United States and other countries noted for up-to-date systems, and have incorporated the best features of all in their schools, and that is extended to the newer provinces of the west as rapidly as time and conditions will permit. The schools are all free, that is they involve no taxation on attendance. On account of each province, but more especially Alberta and Saskatchewan, both recently created, receiving a very large annual subsidy, equal to \$6 per head of their population, for the maintenance of local government and its institutions, the people are saved from every thing in the nature of high or even ordinary taxation. As a consequence the schools are for the most part supported by government grants, and where taxation is necessary it does not exceed more than two or three dollars on each quarter section of land.

Educational facilities good, and cost comparatively light.

The schools are national in character and non-sectarian, though provision is made for religious instruction at the close of the day's routine, whenever it is specially desired by the parents.

The teachers employed are all highly certificated and a large part have normal training which establishes uniformity of method throughout, so that one teacher can always commence where his or her predecessor left off without the slightest confusion resulting from the change, which parents who attended the schools of many years ago, know is of invaluable service. This inexpensiveness of primary education extends to the high schools, the next step in educational advancement. These are to be found in all the towns and larger villages, ensuring to the youth of that country as good an education as can be secured in any of the older countries of the world and at less cost than is to be found prevailing anywhere else.

In religious matters, the most extreme liberality is everywhere prevalent. There is no state-aided church. Every denomination has to support its own clergy; and all religious sects and denominations stand on equal footing in every corner of the country.



## LEGISLATION.

Every person of almost any age has heard of the expression "British Fair Play," and its meaning is well known from one end of civilization to the other. It is the dominant feature of the legislative enactments relating to individual rights of every civilized country. If, however, it is prominently in force in any one country more than another, it is in the Canadian West.

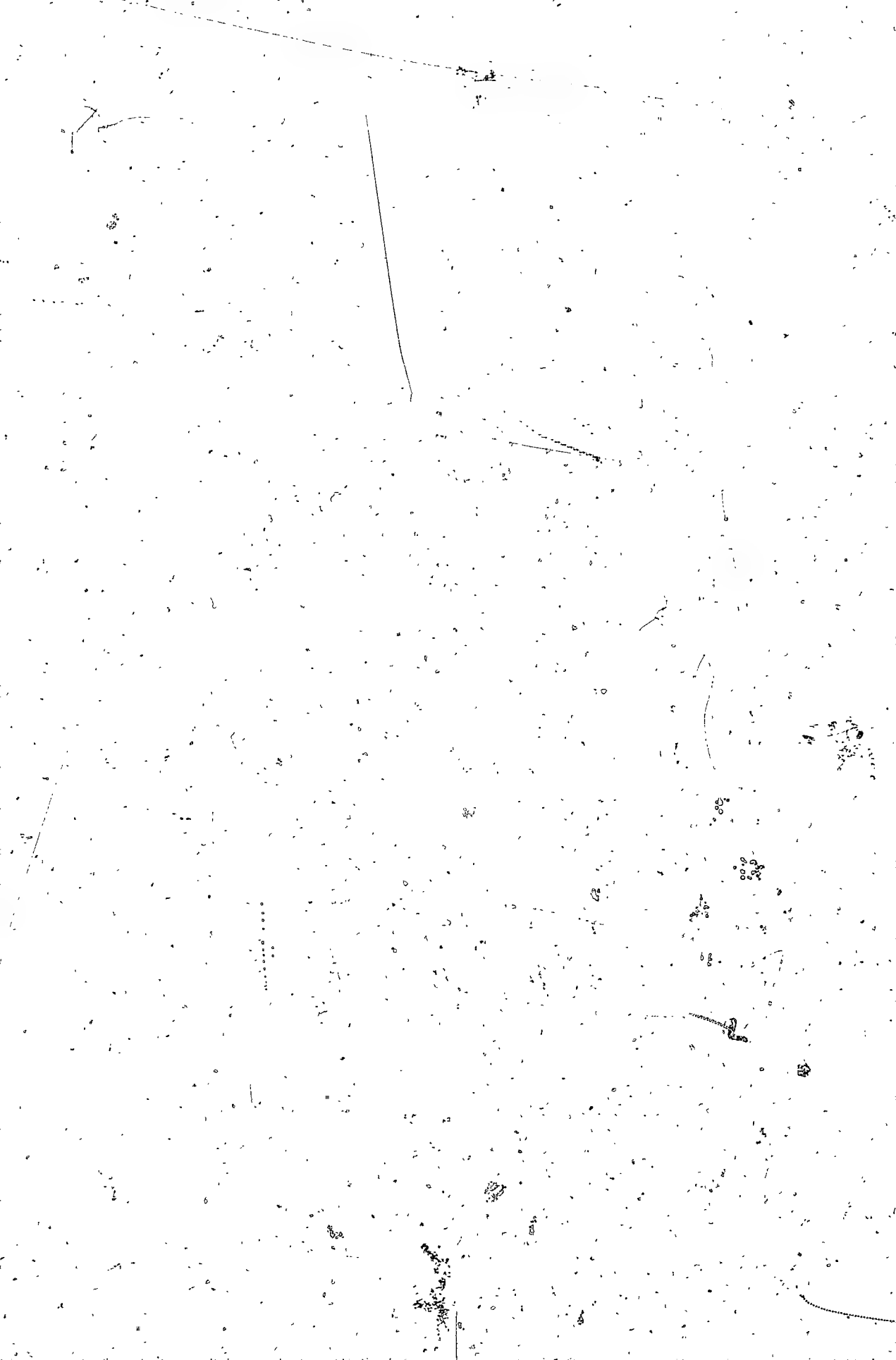
The Provinces are self-governed in every respect.

It may be said that all legislation of an advanced character is founded on the old Mosaic law; but if this is so, Moses, if alive today, would hardly recognize the offspring of his legislative enactments. Though the principle of insuring every man in his own rights lies at the foundation of all legislation in progressive countries, it is not always scrupulously observed. In some countries the peculiarities of the enactments are so much matters of doubt that their force is a matter of much question. By way, however, of introducing the system in force in the Canadian prairie country, I may say that British justice lies at the foundation of it all. The people elect the Members of Parliament, Members of the Provincial Assembly and the members of the municipal councils. These three bodies make all the local laws and appoint all the officials to carry them out, so that indirectly, or through their representative, the people make their own laws and secure their enforcement. This is certainly the most popular form of government known to civilization. The people every five years elect their representatives in Parliament, and annually their municipal councils, so that if they find at any time they were mistaken in their choice of representatives, the mistakes are readily rectified. In a young country like the Canadian West, it is always found that every few years suggests new kinds of legislation and the people through the constitution of the country are always in the position to have them readily effected. They are as a consequence the most self-governed people in the world.

## SANITATION.

Another matter of great importance to the intending mover, or the man who desires to better his condition by changing his residence, which is the only influence that will induce him to change,

The Northwest is one grand sanitarium.

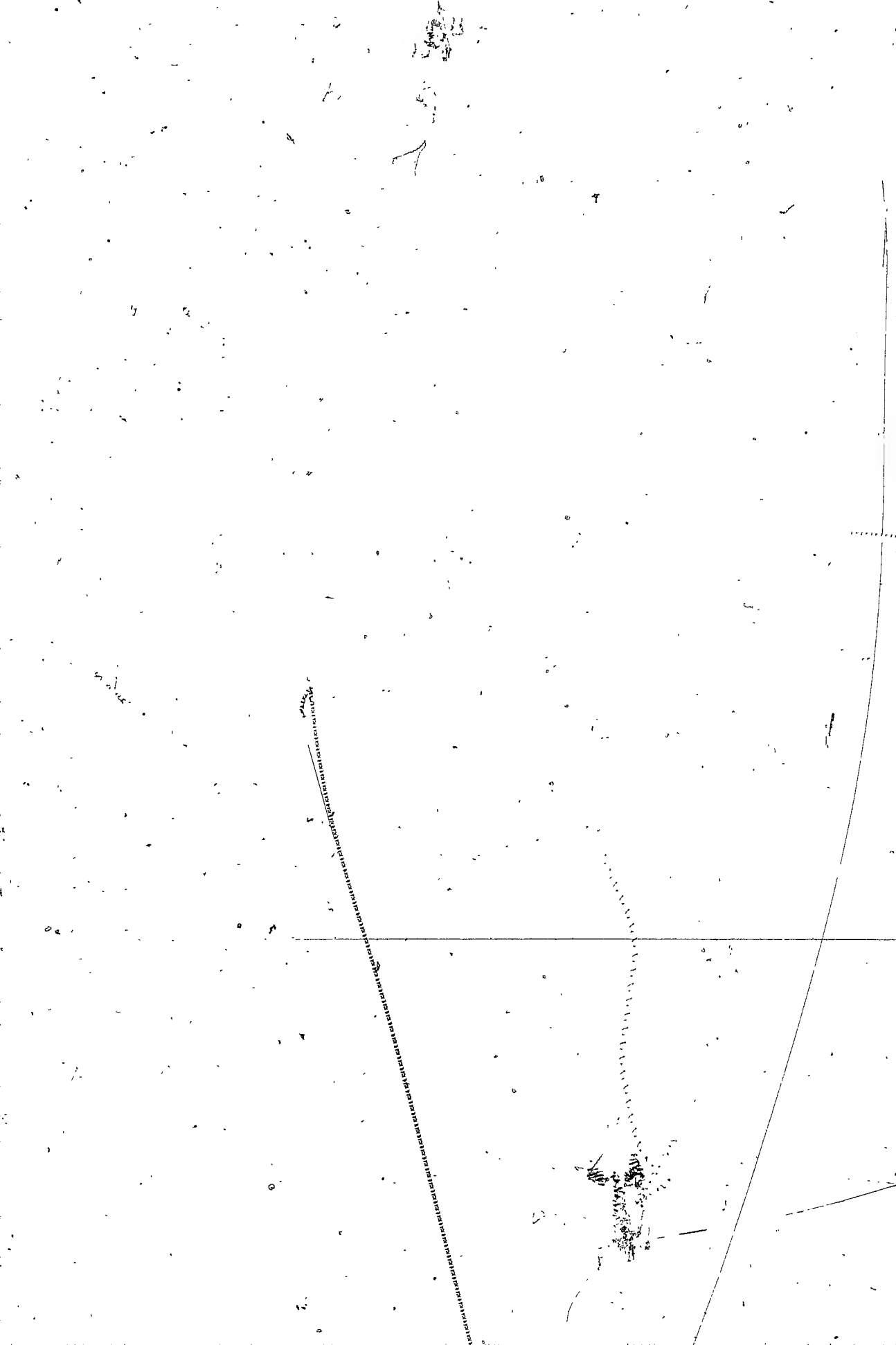


is the sanitary condition of the country to which he may desire to emigrate. If the conditions are not conducive to good health, no matter what the other inducements may be, they are of comparatively little value. The prospective settler wants to know that the country in which he is about to settle has the conditions that generally lead to what is acknowledged to be good health. Of course the diseases to which a person is predisposed through heredity or other such constitutional causes, will crop out and show themselves anywhere, though they may be delayed under climatic and other such surroundings in many instances. There is no country in which man is exempt from that absolute certainty—death—but in the Canadian West he is assured, of as long a life as he can be anywhere else. The winters are cold to be sure, but they are bright and cheerful, while the summers are bright and cheerful also. There is in nearly all sections a sufficient water fall in snow and rain to ensure rapid and successful vegetation; but at the same time as much clear weather as is to be found anywhere. The country is almost entirely free from this gloomy, drizzly weather which is so much dreaded by persons of weak constitutions. The streams and rivers of the country are always swift flowing, carrying off hurriedly all surface impurities, so that as a consequence malarial diseases are almost altogether unknown, and the "White Plague," consumption, reduced to a minimum. Pure atmosphere and the clear, bright sunshine the year round, are conducive to the building up of vigorous and robust manhood and womanhood.

### FUEL.

There are but few parts of the country, notwithstanding it is prairie, in which there is not a fair amount of timber for fuel, either skirting the lakes and rivers or the bluffs and bush lands scattered over the country. This, however, is of but little moment as coal of the very best quality is found in most parts of the country. In many localities the farmers drive to the pit's mouths, load their own conveyances and drive home with a fuel that costs them but from \$1.00 to \$2.00 per ton.

Coal may be obtained in almost every part of the Northwest.





This is especially true of the two new western provinces—Alberta and Saskatchewan. Manitoba, the eastern province, is not so well favored in this respect, but as no portion of even this province is now 250 miles from a mine in Saskatchewan, the cost of railway carriage is the only additional price the Manitoba farmer has to pay for his coal as compared with that of his neighbor in the sister province. The fuel question of the whole country has been long since settled by the wise provision of nature, and need give no settler for the next dozen centuries or so, the least concern. This being the case it is a matter of but little anxiety to us.

### THE AGRICULTURAL CAPABILITIES.

We now come to the great question of them all—the agricultural capabilities of the country. In the first place it may be noted that the country has had to the present almost absolute immunity from terrific storms, tornadoes, and other such visitations as are such a great destroyer of crops and terror to the people of many prairie countries. These are not the result of government or visitations of vengeance for evil doing, as our forefathers, some centuries ago, would have suggested, but arise from electric action, conformation of country, etc. The country has had in the memory of white people the tails of a few of such storms arising and operating in the northern States, but they have fortunately been limited to very small areas, and have seldom been very destructive in even these. The early summer frosts of all new countries appeared for a couple of years in the early days of the country, but they, with settlement and cultivation, there as well as elsewhere, are now a thing of the buried past. The crops of the agriculturist develop and fully mature in all sections of the country, and what may appear strange to many, in even farther northern regions than are yet opened by the government for general settlement. Out in the Peace River country 800 miles, north of the international boundary, wheat has ripened for several years past in an almost incredibly short season often going 65 lbs. to the bushel, and in as heavy a yield as in any other part of the country. From this it will appear that latitude alone does not determine the agricultural limits of any country; there are other modifications that play a very important part in vegetation also.

No area limit  
to agricul-  
tural pos-  
sibilities.



Of course everyone knows that moisture and sunshine are the great aids to a favourable soil for production. I have already said in an earlier portion of this address, that the Canadian West possesses a very favourable proportion of summer as well as winter sunshine, and this applies to the extreme northern region as well as to any other portion of the country.

All school children know that the farther north one travels the longer the summer days and the shorter the summer nights until at the north pole there is six months night and six months day. This at all intermediate points insures an increasing length of summer sun each day with advance of latitude, and summer's sun with copious rains does the work for successful agriculture, and fully explains the satisfactory production of all cereals in the higher latitudes of the Canadian prairie.

The experience in farming in the western portion of the prairie country for the last 35 years and the evidence of more recent settlers in the western and the northern districts of that country, show that local modifying influences and natural conditions have as much to do in moulding a suitable climate for grain growing as even latitude itself.

### NATURE OF THE SOIL.

It may be news to some people present, but all the same, circumstances point to the conclusion that the subsoil of this prairie country is of glacial formation; long back in the ages, as it may appear to man, but for all that, recently in the world's history the entire north country was covered by huge icebergs or glaciers, such as may still be seen on the summits of the Rocky Mountains, and up in the Alps of Switzerland. In that age the climate must have been more moderate, as is evidenced by the skeletons of mastodons and other huge animals which could only have existed in semi-tropical regions. These glaciers were ever on their onward southern march, grinding hills, mountains, forests and everything else before them into powder and leaving behind them pulverized rocks as a strong subsoil for the whole country. As these moving masses of ice progressed, finding their way to the oceans, they left the beds of huge rivers,

The mould, the country over, constitutes the best soil in existence.



larger than those now coursed, and some of them now completely dried up cuts. On the borders of these streams in some cases, as in the vicinity of Winnipeg, immense alluvial deposits were placed making the deepest and strongest surface for agricultural purposes in the known world. Even where these deposits were not left vegetation sprang up and in turn decayed. Continuous rotations of this growth and decay created on the surface of the country a deep vegetable mould varying in thickness from a few inches on the heights of land to several feet on the lower levels. This mould the country over constitutes the best soil in existence and constitutes the American prairies the wheat fields of the world.

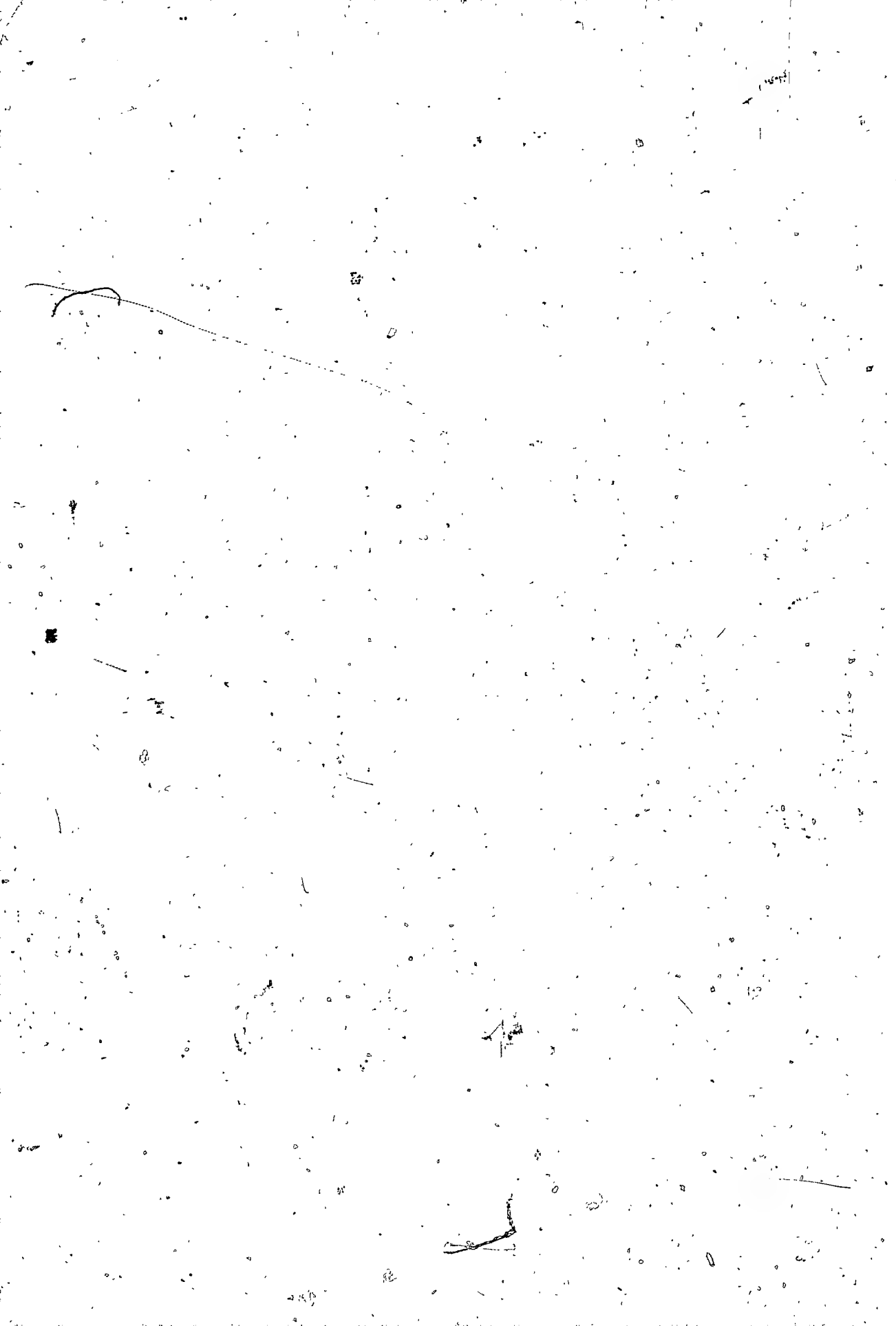
In location, climate, soil, fuel supply, sanitary conditions, and the legislation of the country, nature and man have combined to make the Canadian prairies a paradise for one of the largest agricultural communities the world may ever see, certainly the largest so far as man has yet conception of the world's locating capabilities.

#### SETTLEMENT NOT SPASMODIC.

A rush of settlement in a condition of fever or excitement may be made to any country on exciting reports, but where there is not the substantial behind them reaction soon sets in. The Canadian West has long since passed all these stages of curiosity and experiment, and though young in the age of a country, is well on the way to ultimate supremacy in the hands of an established, permanent and ever increasing population.

A permanent  
and ever-  
increasing  
population.

It is an old and a true saying that "The proof of the pudding is in the eating," and for the same reason the superior inducements held out by this country for settlers is already established by what has been accomplished by those who have settled there during the last 25 years. There were sparse settlements there before that time, but as there was no outlet for anything they could raise on their farms, there being no railways, there was but little done to test the capabilities of the country. It was known there were immeasurable areas of the best of native grasses for the pasturage of unlimited herds of cattle, and plenty of native hay to be had for winter keep



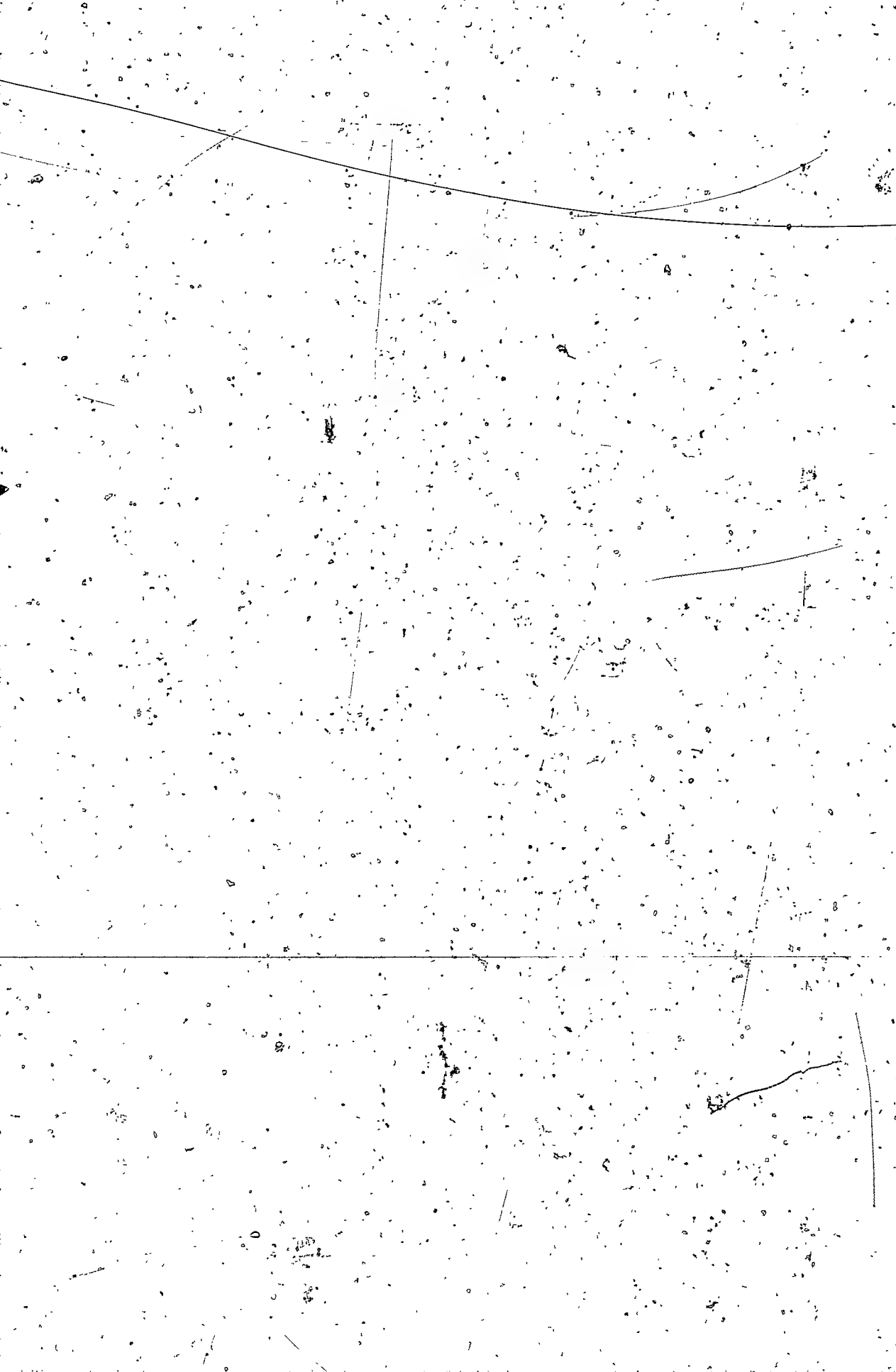
in the sections where housing was necessary. It was also known that roots and vegetables grew to an enormous size and that all farm crops fully matured year in and year out with a very large yield; but very naturally until the means of transport were at hand there could have been no reasonable test of the country's capabilities. It is now ascertained by successive cropping that year in and year out the farmer threshes from the acre 20 bushels of wheat, 40 bushels of oats, 30 bushels of barley and other crops in proportion.

### RAILWAY AND ELEVATOR FACILITIES.

The rush of 150,000 settlers per annum, the rapid extension of the four systems of railway in the country to all corners in which there are isolated settlements, the erection of from two to five or more grain elevators at all the railway stations in the country, and the ever-increasing bank accounts of nearly 75 per cent. of the entire population of the country all bear unmistakable assurances of the substantial and ever increasing development of the country. That there are drones in this country as well as men of energy and enterprise goes without saying; but when it is understood that averaged up, man for man, the farmers of Manitoba last year, from the sale of crops and live stock realized as net profits over all expenses, \$1,475 each, but little more is necessary to carry conviction to the most skeptical. But even this is not all. It may be true there are other countries in which the farming community do nearly as well as in the figures I have quoted; but it is on very expensive properties while the Canadian prairie farmers have made their profit on land that cost them nothing. Many of their forefathers in the eastern provinces and some of the old countries spent half a lifetime in making as much money as they are enabled to put by each and every year.

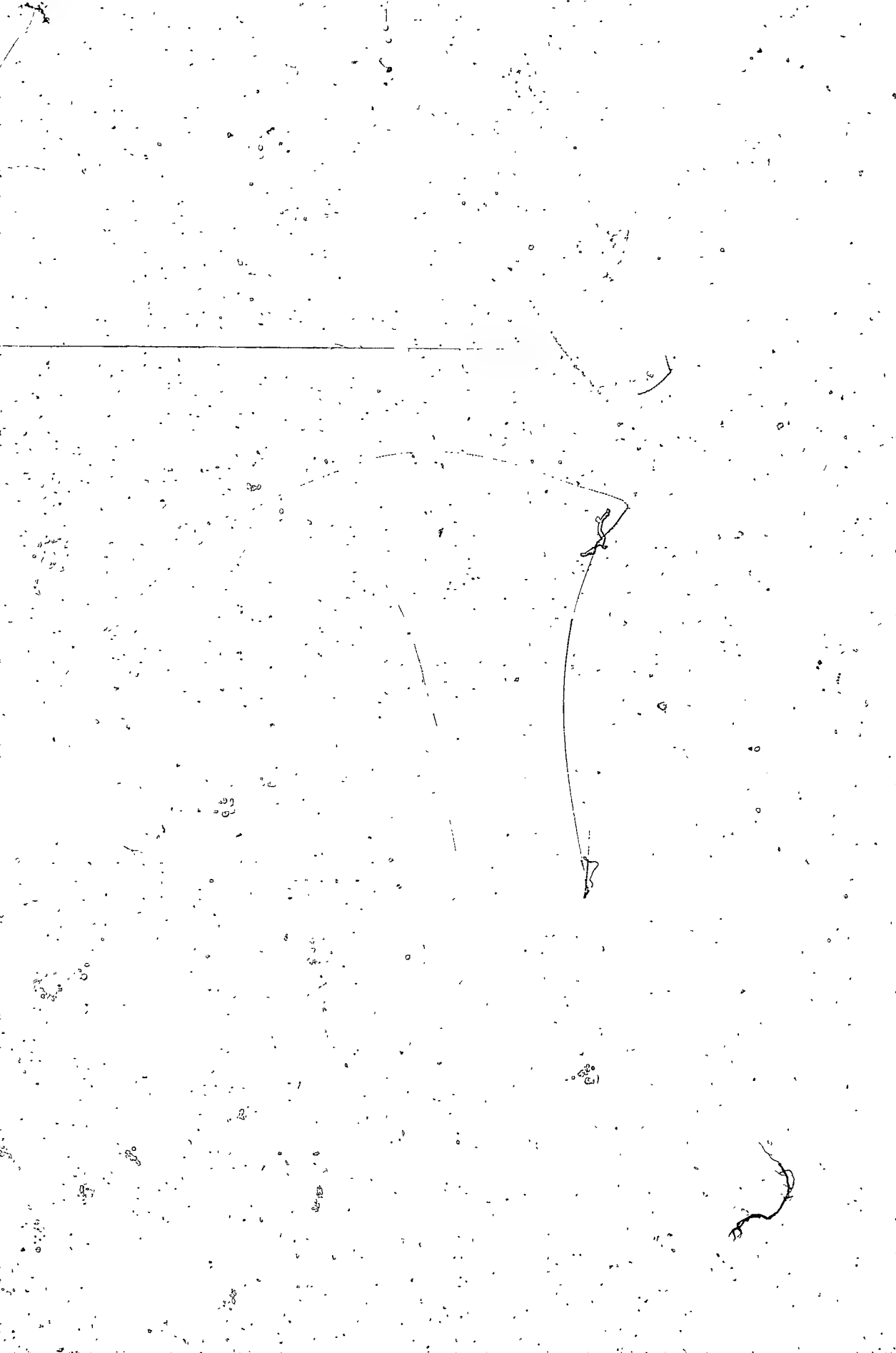
Substantial  
develop-  
ment of the  
country  
assured.

I may be addressing men to-night who are doing, as the world calls it, very well, and the old maxim is to let very well alone; but if these gentlemen can turn all their effects into cash and employ that cash in stocking and fitting up a farm in the Canadian West that costs them nothing but \$10 for a homestead entry, it requires but little to show them where they can easily improve even on that "very





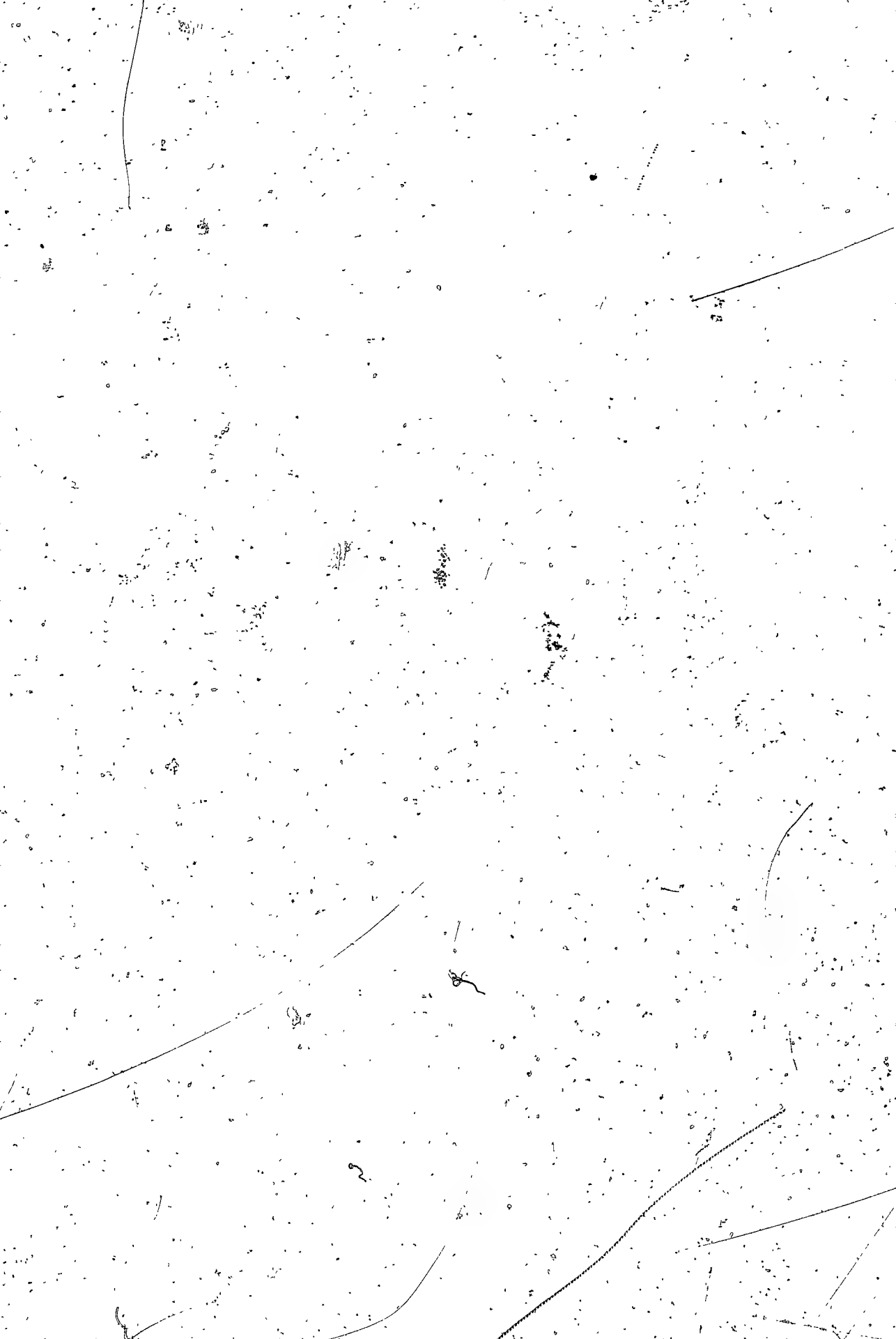
well" that some people would be disposed to let alone. I think now that in this one short address I have gone fairly well over the field, but still have not given many details of which many would like to hear more definitely. The government literature is, however, readily available; all the agents have it for circulation, and every statement made in any of these books or pamphlets can be relied on as absolutely accurate. But it is not necessary to depend even on these. There is now scarcely a resident of this, or most other countries of the world, that has not some relative or acquaintance residing in some portion of the Canadian West. Correspondence with these will readily elicit the fact that no country on the face of the globe offers more inducements for the faithful reward of energy, perseverance, enterprise and ambition than does the prairie district of Western Canada.



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# LECTURE IV.

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## LECTURE IV.

GENTLEMEN:—

Though volumes have already been spoken and written on the merits of the Canadian prairie country as an opening for enterprising settlers, as the Queen of Sheba said of Solomon's Temple, "The half has not been told," so extensive is the country, and so varied are its resources and capabilities.

"The half has not been told" of the Canadian West.

Before commencing my discourse this evening I cannot do better than quote an extract from the "New England Magazine," written by an American writer a short time ago, and which doubtless some of you have read before this. The extract shows that already the opportunities of the country are fully appreciated by many Americans, and is, in brief, an advice for others to "go and do likewise."

"For Canada the hour of destiny has struck. She has the physical basis for an empire; and the stream of immigration which has now begun will swell into a mighty movement of population like that by which our central west was occupied until her fertile lands shall be the homes of millions of prosperous people. Thus far American immigrants are largely in excess of those from other lands outside the British groups, and American thought will have a mighty influence in moulding the character of the Commonwealth of Western Canada. The English speaking immigrants outnumber manifold all those of other tongues; and thus it is made sure that both the Great Republic and the nascent nation adjoining will be loyal to the idea of constitutional liberty, and, standing side by side, will work together to advance that Anglo-Saxon civilization which seems destined to dominate the world."

### ADVANCED CIVILIZATION:

What the Anglo-Saxon civilization may have to do decades or centuries hence in influencing the destinies of the world, it is not



for me to either anticipate or suggest, but certain it is, it has all to do with moulding the future of the Canadian prairie country, and it is well for both Canada and the United States that it is so, as their trade relations must of necessity become more and more interwoven as age advances, from the fact that the wheat growing limit, and, I might add, the entire agricultural limit, is now pretty well reached, or will now grow much in excess of the natural increase in the consumption of the country until it is reached by the ever-increasing manufacturing and commercial population. Western Canada will continue for a century at least to be one of the heavy agricultural exporters of the world, and a relatively increasing consumer of the goods the Americans have to export. Commercially speaking then it is of the greatest interest to both that they should grow up in harmony and working interestedly side by side. Both countries have as their population the Anglo-Saxon stock which the American quoted, says; is going to dominate the world, so that from the widest field of observation, as well as from local interests, their common welfare is identical.

A century of  
agricultural  
pre-eminence  
for Canada.

I may now commence the matter in hand by saying there can be no matter of more moment or more importance to the intending mover, or the man who desires to better his condition in life, which means every one, than the conditions, natural, social, industrial and sanitary in the country in which he is about to locate. He wants to know that all the civil and religious institutions guarantee absolute safety and freedom, that his health will be safe, and that he will get a just return for his labour. In a word the prospective mover has continually in consideration before making his venture, the climate, healthfulness, character of public institutions, extent and nature of the natural resources and advantages of his proposed adopted home and the scope which it affords for the exercise of the capital, brain and muscle with which by personal effort and natural circumstances, he may be endowed. It is not to be expected that any one country would suit everybody. There is no country absolutely perfect, and it is a question, if there was one such country, that all humanity would be satisfied with it, so diversified are the tastes and expectations of the human family.





## INDUSTRY BRINGS WEALTH.

It is not claimed that the Canadian West is perfect, that it will grow everything under the sun, and that it will please everyone. I confidently assert, however, with a full knowledge of the responsibility of saying so, that the country possesses all the natural advantages which, wisely managed, go the necessary distance to create as many prosperous homes in any given limit of country as can be found in any similar limit of any agricultural country within the four cardinal points of the compass. In some instances men appear to be thrown into fortunes. I do not want to say that this is the case with all who settle on the Canadian prairies; but I do say that under anything like a fair start there is no country in which an enterprising, thrifty and careful farmer can grow into comfortable circumstances, which means wealth, the way farming goes, quicker than he can in the Canadian West. You cannot kick a crop into the ground or farm with gloves on there any more than anywhere else, and grow rich by magic. Unless you have ample means to hire everything done it requires effort and industry, but when both are employed, and the settler works within a reasonable liability, he never fails to succeed. The country is everywhere, throughout its almost boundless acres, dotted over with living evidences of this. Scores of families in all districts who commenced with limited means a few years ago are now in comfortable surroundings, with large farms and buildings about them, large flocks and herds of live stock, and many of them with snug balances in the bank. But it is not alone in the agricultural line, although agriculture is bound to be the leading pursuit of that country for all time, that scores have succeeded and are succeeding every day. With the increase of agriculturists comes the necessity for advanced commercial and professional men, and they invariably prosper as the country grows.

I might just add here that government reports, easily available, can always be depended upon as giving the facts exactly as they are.

Enterprise  
and thrift  
will bring  
comfort and  
wealth.



## WHY GOVERNMENT FOSTERS IMMIGRATION.

Some may think it is a strange procedure on the part of the government to attempt to bring in population at any expense, and give the people free lands besides. This, however, is a superficial, if not an erroneous view of the situation. The government in an endeavour to settle up the country is not actuated by any philanthropic motives in advertising the resources of the country, or locating settlers therein; it is a purely business proposition as with a farmer buying a horse or selling a ton of hay.

The government's immigration policy purely a business proposition.

In inducing the location of advisable classes of settlers, the government has a double object in view—to improve the social and economic conditions of the population already there, and to increase the revenues of the country through customs, excise, postal receipts and other sources of taxation. It is well known to all who have looked into the matter that density of population relatively minimises the per capita cost of government, or, in other words, a country thickly populated relatively reduces the cost of government per individual, and as the population increases the revenues become correspondingly increased. These advantages work out to the general welfare, until the limit of comfortable sufficiency is reached; after that, increase of population works in a reverse direction. As, however, there is not all told more than two per cent. of the entire country taken up by settlers, though population is pouring in at the rate of 200,000 a year, during the life of any one present there will be no cause of alarm from over-population. It is a country of vast extent, well on to 400,000,000 acres in area, and to the present there is only sufficient taken up and developed to reveal the immensity and possibilities of its potential wealth. Less than thirty-five years ago its entire white population could be numbered on four figures of and to-day it is at least 800,000 and increasing at the rate of well on to 200,000 a year. There is in effect a huge stream of living humanity fleeing from the grinding exactions of many over-populated countries of Europe, as well as the more enterprising countries not so exacting, and finding a refuge there where enterprise, thrift and labour are fully compensated.

There, the land is free, religious restrictions are unknown, the



school system the best in the world, moulded by the most advanced thought of the foremost educationists of America and Europe, and the laws of the country whatever the people desire to make them, as they are framed by legislators of their own choosing under the freest form of manhood suffrage. In the more improved and better settled portions of the country, land has of course to be bought from those who have held it and improved it for years; but in the newer parts it is still to be had for the asking. Those who occupy such lands now will in a few years hence find themselves in the midst of advanced civilization surrounded by railways, villages and towns at regular distances and all the other advantages of civilization that are now so general in the older and more thickly settled portions of the country.

### THE CLIMATE.

Every one about to emigrate to any country is anxious to know all it is possible to learn about the climate, whether hot or cold, dry or wet, healthy or unhealthy. It goes without saying that it is not possible for any country of the expanse of the Canadian West to be without a variety of climate, drier in some parts than in others, and again colder in some regions than in others. In general terms it may be said that the southern portion of the new province of Alberta and the Western district of Saskatchewan alongside is the driest region of the whole country. In all the rest there is a sufficient rainfall in the summer season to mature all the crops sown and to perfect every aim of successful agriculture. In the dry region irrigation is resorted to and with the very best results. Already the Canadian Pacific Railway with an immense system of irrigation has brought a large area into condition for successful cropping in every line; and it is claimed the entire area of land in what is called the arid country can be brought under successful agriculture at a cost varying from 50 cents to \$1.50 per acre. The aridity of this district may be accounted for by the presence of the "Chinook" or warm winds that cross the Rocky Mountains from the Pacific Ocean.

Where irrigation brings the very best results.



But while they have this influence on the summer seasons, diminishing the rainfall, they have a correspondingly serviceable result on the winters. They melt the snows almost as soon as they fall, and temper the climate so as to make it the foremost ranching country in the known world. In consequence of this melting of the snow and tempering of the storms, cattle, sheep and horses are enabled to roam the country over the whole winter through, feeding being limited, where it is done at all, to infirm or very young animals. The grass grown during the summer seasons retains all of its nutritive properties throughout the winter, and animals fed on it come out in the spring as fat and as slick as a rule as those in other parts of the country which have been stall fed.

In consequence of what nature has done for this part of the country in this regard, ranching, commencing with a very small beginning about 30 years ago, has developed into an industry of immense proportions. Already there are several in it with immense means all accumulated in a very few years. It is estimated that the annual sale from the ranches in fat cattle, horses, sheep and dairy products is fully four million dollars a year. As live stock double every three years, and cost but little in care and management, ranching must yield a profit of from 20 to 25 per cent. annually. Though considerable land is already taken up in this industry it is but a very small fraction of the area available, and to be had at a very small rental from the Dominion Government.

Ranching  
yields a  
profit of  
from 20 to 25  
per cent.  
annually.

I wish to add here that even in this district which has for years been looked upon as arid and semi-arid, there was grown this year about 1,000,000 bushels of winter wheat, the average being very good. Some of the large stock ranges are being converted into wheat fields, and it may be that in two or three years there will be a great revolution in farming in this district.

In all other districts of the great west, as I intimated before, there is plenty of rain for all agricultural purposes. The winters of the eastern and northern parts of the country are colder than in the west, but as they are dry throughout the entire country, rain very rarely falling between the first of December and the middle of March when the winters usually break up, and seeding begins, they are not at all uncomfortable. The air being dry the season through,





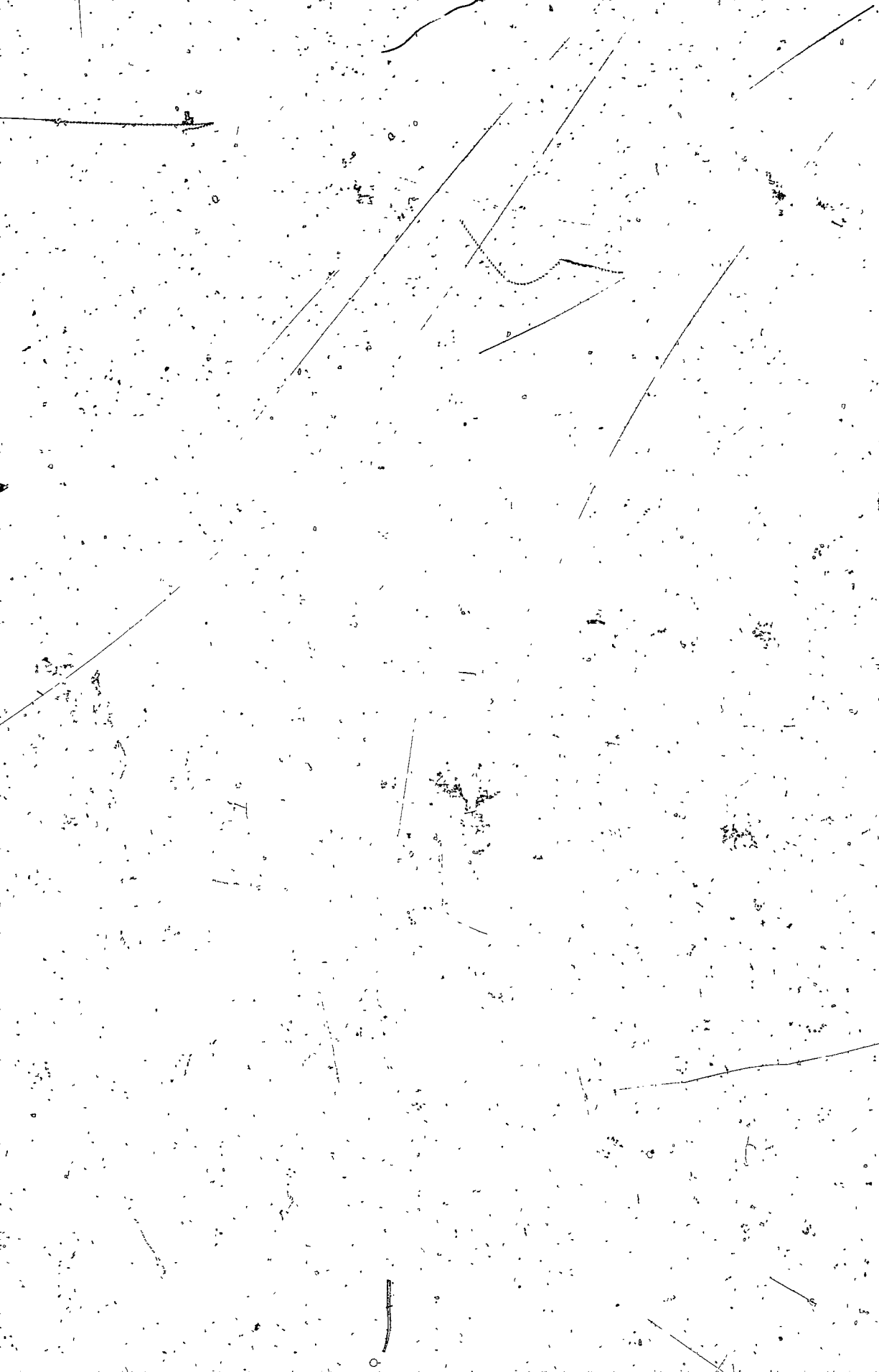
with a very large percentage of clear, sunny weather, the winters are cheerful and healthy from every point of view. Snow rarely falls to more than a foot in depth, and as a consequence the frosts of winter penetrate to a considerable depth, but even this is beneficial, as the summer rains rarely commence before the middle of May and the escaping frost from the ground keeps the soil moist and carries along vegetation most successfully until the rains descend. Many people consider the winters the healthiest and most pleasant portion of the year. Be this as it may, they are at least cheerful with a healthy bracing air.

As the air is everywhere most healthful, and the streams and rivers of the country rapid in their coursing and meandering to the larger bodies of water—the lakes or the ocean—they hurriedly carry off all impurities which are the cause of malarias and fevers in many other less favored countries. It is safe to say everything considered there is no country on the globe more disposed to produce in its settlers most vigorous and robust manhood and womanhood.

### DAIRYING.

This is growing to be a very important industry in the country, though of course inferior to grain growing. There is in all parts of the country almost immeasurable acres of pasturage. Even where the land is slightly broken and considered, at this early stage of the industry, unfit for cultivation it makes excellent pasturage on the higher lands for sheep, and on the lower levels especially for horses and cattle. Native hay is to be had everywhere in the lower lands for the cutting, so that cattle feed with some roots such as turnips thrown in, is the year through most inexpensive in every portion of the country. The pioneer settlers make comfortable stables by lining structures made out of rough timber with straw which is everywhere in abundance, where cropping is done. In the better settled parts where farmers are possessed of more means they usually make bank barns on side hills which serve a double purpose—a granary for threshed crops above and the best of stabling beneath. Usually after the fourth or fifth year on the farm, the settler, even though starting with very small means, is enabled to

Dairying has grown to be an important industry.



erect comfortable buildings for man and beast, and when he gets into that shape he is in a position to enjoy all the comforts of his calling in vogue in any part of the world, and put by annually a considerable sum of money besides.

All the dairying of the country is now fast coming under government supervision, through a system that is working admirably wherever tried. The Government advances money to erect creameries wherever there is a sufficient number of farmers to patronise one, and sends expert, trained men to manage them. The farmers deliver their milk at the institutions and the managers do the rest—make the butter and cheese and hand the patrons over the proceeds, making advances to the patrons of some 10 cents a pound for butter, from month to month. These advances are a considerable assistance to settlers without means. Run in this way they are saved the expense of erecting buildings for the care of milk and butter; they have their products hauled by the experienced men; they get advances when they need them, and the entire outputs are invariably held for the best markets, thus ensuring to the farmers the very best results in this particular branch of the business.

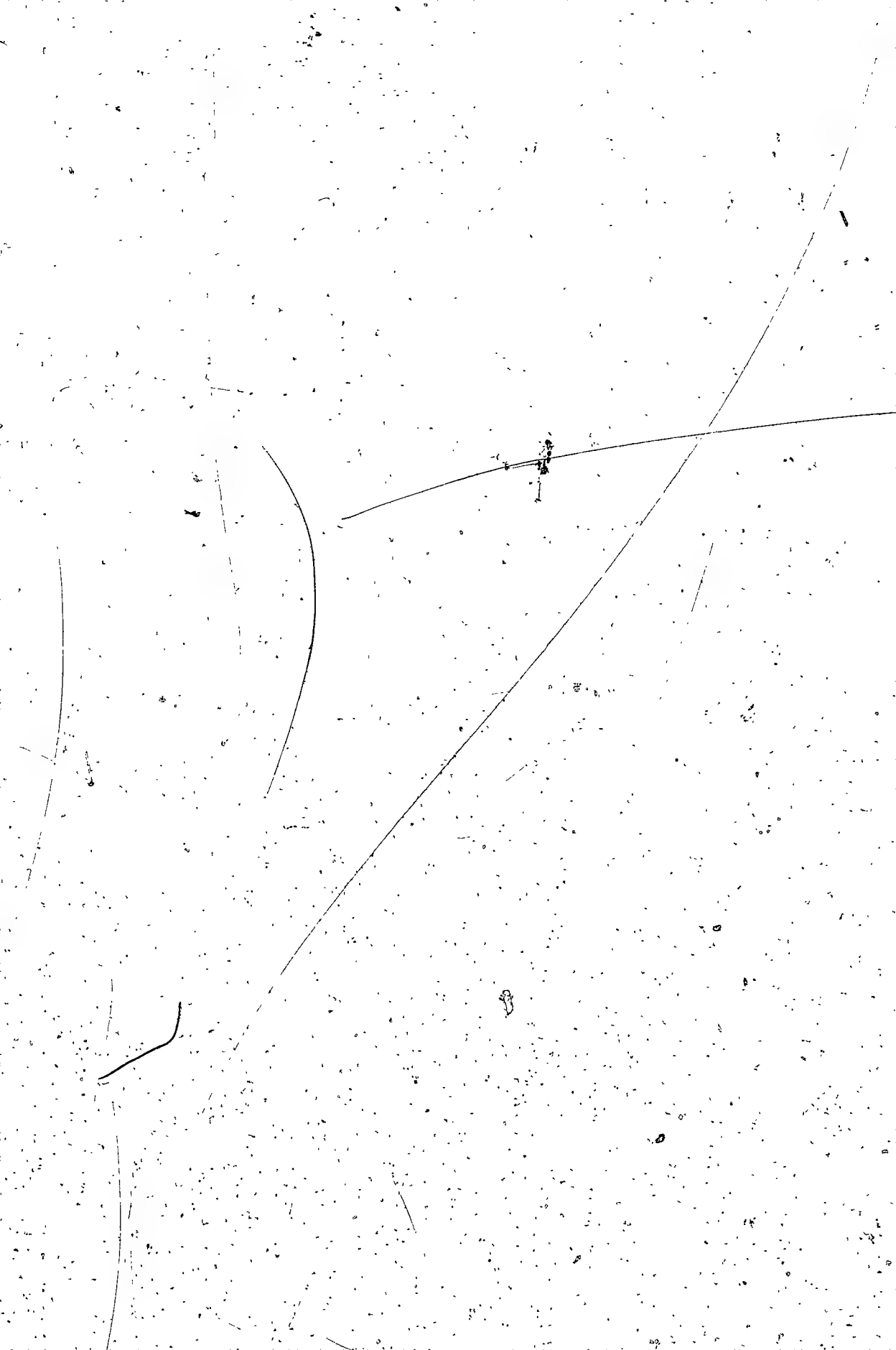
The Government advances money towards creameries.

## WHEAT GROWING.

This, of course, is the leading and will for all time remain the leading resource of the country.

A bumper crop of wheat, oats and barley.

As most people are now fully aware the old forms of territorial government were abolished throughout the entire country at the last session of the federal parliament and instead of there being one province—Manitoba—and four territories—Athabasca, Saskatchewan, Alberta and Assiniboia—now in the Canadian West the entire country or at least the southern portion of it which will be considered for settlement during the next generation, is divided into the three provinces of Manitoba, Saskatchewan and Alberta. In speaking of the Canadian West as a whole hereafter these three provinces will be dealt with unless they are individually specified. It is estimated from the closest figures made up by the government officials that in these three provinces there are this year 6,879,765 acres under crop, that 4,495,690 acres are under wheat, 1,838,220 are



under oats and 546,853 under barley. As again from the most careful estimate, which can easily be made as the crop is now safely harvested and is being marketed, that to the acre, the country over oats will average 42 bushels, barley 32, and wheat about 20, so that the wheat crop will reach about 90,000,000 bushels; the oat crop 75,000,000, and the barley crop 17,000,000. When it is considered that the first bushel of grain was exported 27 years ago the immensity of the progress made can be easily imagined.

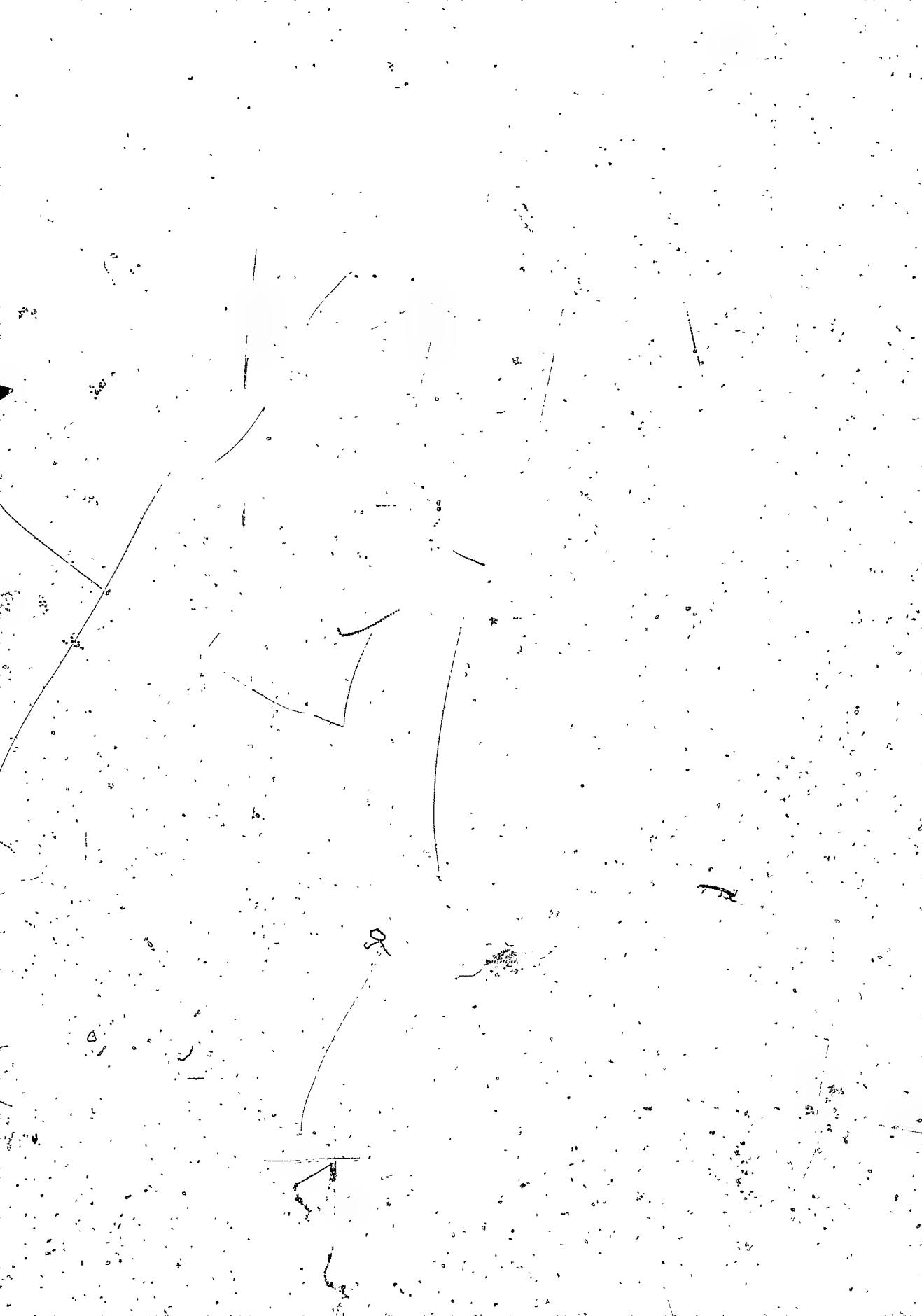
But let us analyse this to see its fullest meaning. The whole country, rapid as the settlement has been, does not possess more than 800,000 of a population one-half or perhaps 400,000 of whom are farmers. Estimating three to a family all through and there will be found to be 135,000 men actually engaged in farming and they producing 182,000,000 bushels of grain, or over 1,350 bushels each. With present prices for all cereals, and a handsome result from the sale of live stock, dairy products, roots, vegetables, poultry and other produce, the listener can readily understand that farming on the Canadian prairies must be a very profitable enterprise. But it is not alone through the actual sales from the farms, large though they be, that the farmers in that country make money—he makes it in the growth in value of his property besides. It is a safe calculation to say that four-fifths of the farmers of that country homesteaded their properties in the first place; and it is an equally safe statement to make that the remaining one-fifth bought from the railway companies, the Hudson Bay Company, or other corporations holding property, was secured at less all around than \$5.00 per acre. A few of course paid more than that and many others much less. Many of these farms are now worth \$30, \$40 and \$50 per acre; but supposing we place it at \$10 all around, the 135,000 farmers, making at least \$1,000 each on an average out of their year's sales in crop, dairy and live-stock, are worth in real estate and buildings \$60,000,000 and a considerable sum in implements and cash in the banks besides.

How the  
lands have  
advanced in  
value by  
cultivation.

Gentlemen, what I have told you this evening is not an explanation of any theories or probabilities, it is a statement of clear cold facts as they exist in that country; and the question I want



to place before you is merely this: Will or will not it pay you to sell out your present properties and invest your money in a country which possesses all the social and economical privileges of this advanced age, where farming lands which will in a few years be worth a large sum of money can now be had for nothing. Any one encumbered here, who can realize a few dollars, will find that small commencement rapidly growing in value there, and the enterprising, willing young man without means, can always find employment on farms until he earns sufficient to make a reasonable start for himself. It is simply a business proposition—a matter of dollars and cents for yourselves to consider and I leave the question with you.





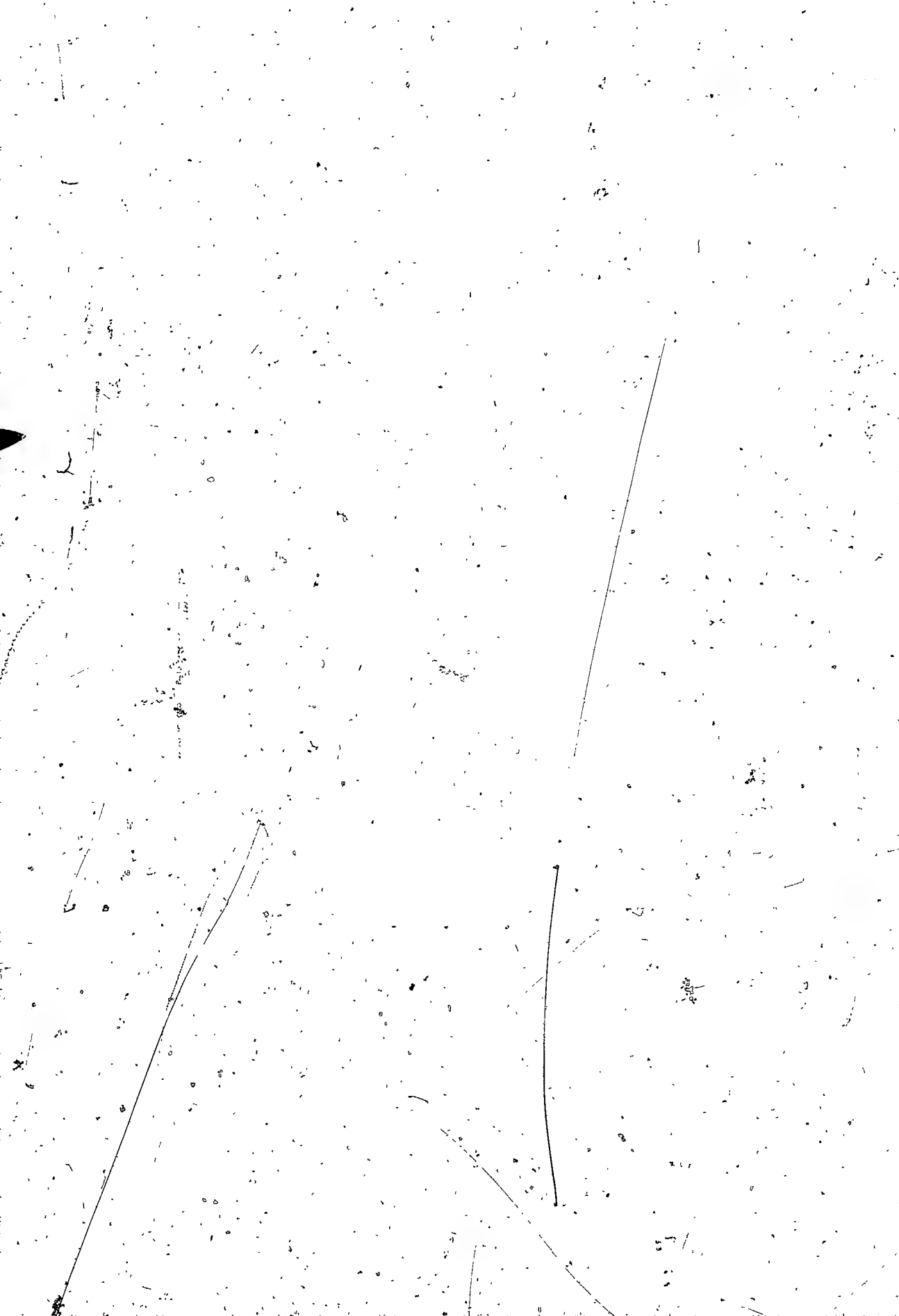
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# LECTURE V.

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## LECTURE V.

GENTLEMEN:—

There are but few people on the American continent today who do not know considerable about the Canadian prairie country if for no other reason than the advertising it has received for the production of No. 1 hard wheat. It is now a fact admitted by all who have given the matter attention that the most northern or colder region in which any agricultural product can be fully matured, produces the best sample; many of you have noticed this in the growth of apples and other fruits, the warmer climate may produce a stronger growth, but the cooler atmosphere (at least nights), appears to be necessary to give texture, flavor and complete finish to the product; this fact, to some extent at least accounts for the celebrity of western Canadian wheat. As the opportunities for settlement in that country and wealth acquirement in a comparatively short space of time are commanding such a large share of the attention of the emigrating population of the countries of Europe, the eastern provinces of Canada, and the northern and eastern states of America, I am here to give you as well as possible in one short lecture a history of the movement, but more especially the causes that have led up to it in the last few years.

A glance at the map will show you that in general terms the Canadian prairie country occupies all that part of North America, north of the International boundary lying between the Rocky Mountains on the west, the mountainous country along the 90th degree of longitude to the east and back north almost indefinitely. The area of country in which grain growing successfully, has become an established fact, embraces about 385,000,000 acres of land. It is not unlikely that experiments will show that cropping can be done successfully even to the north of this area, but as it will be years before that north country will be on the list for settlement, it is quite unnecessary to deal with it here.

No. 1 hard wheat one of Canada's best advertising mediums.



In 1869 the Canadian government secured possession of this by a transfer from the Imperial government paying the Hudson Bay Company \$1,500,000 and giving them one-eighteenth part of the land to extinguish a title they possessed under a trading treaty. In 1870, the Canadian government converted the eastern portion of the country into a province called Manitoba; a few years later it established a primitive form of government in the west part under four territories—Athabasca, Alberta, Saskatchewan and Assiniboia. This year it converted these four territories into two provinces, so that to-day the entire west is composed of three provinces—Alberta, Saskatchewan and Manitoba—each one possessing all the powers of responsible and independent government which are enjoyed by any portion of this continent, not excepting the most favored States of the American Union.

### GOVERNMENT.

In each of these three provinces the people elect their own representatives to parliament under Manhood Suffrage, and the parliament appoints all officials and makes all the local laws to govern the countries except minor ones made by municipal officials in townships, villages, towns and cities. Thus it will be seen the people, through men of their own choosing, make all the laws for their own government. This is freedom in the broadest sense of the word. As each province gets a subsidy of well on to \$3.00 per head of its population for all time from the Federal government, and possesses one-eighteenth of the land area besides, the support of schools, government, and education will be inexpensive items with the people for generations to come. While on this subject I may say there are excellent schools in all the villages and towns and country parts where there are a dozen or more pupils to attend them, undenominational, free to attendants and under highly certificated teachers. Any shortage in government money to defray cost of maintenance is made up by a tax on the land which rarely exceeds \$2.00 or \$3.00 a year on each quarter section (160 acres). I might also say there is no state aided church in any part of the country. All denominations are on an equal footing, each being supported by its own adherents.

The people  
choose the  
men who  
make the  
laws that  
govern them.



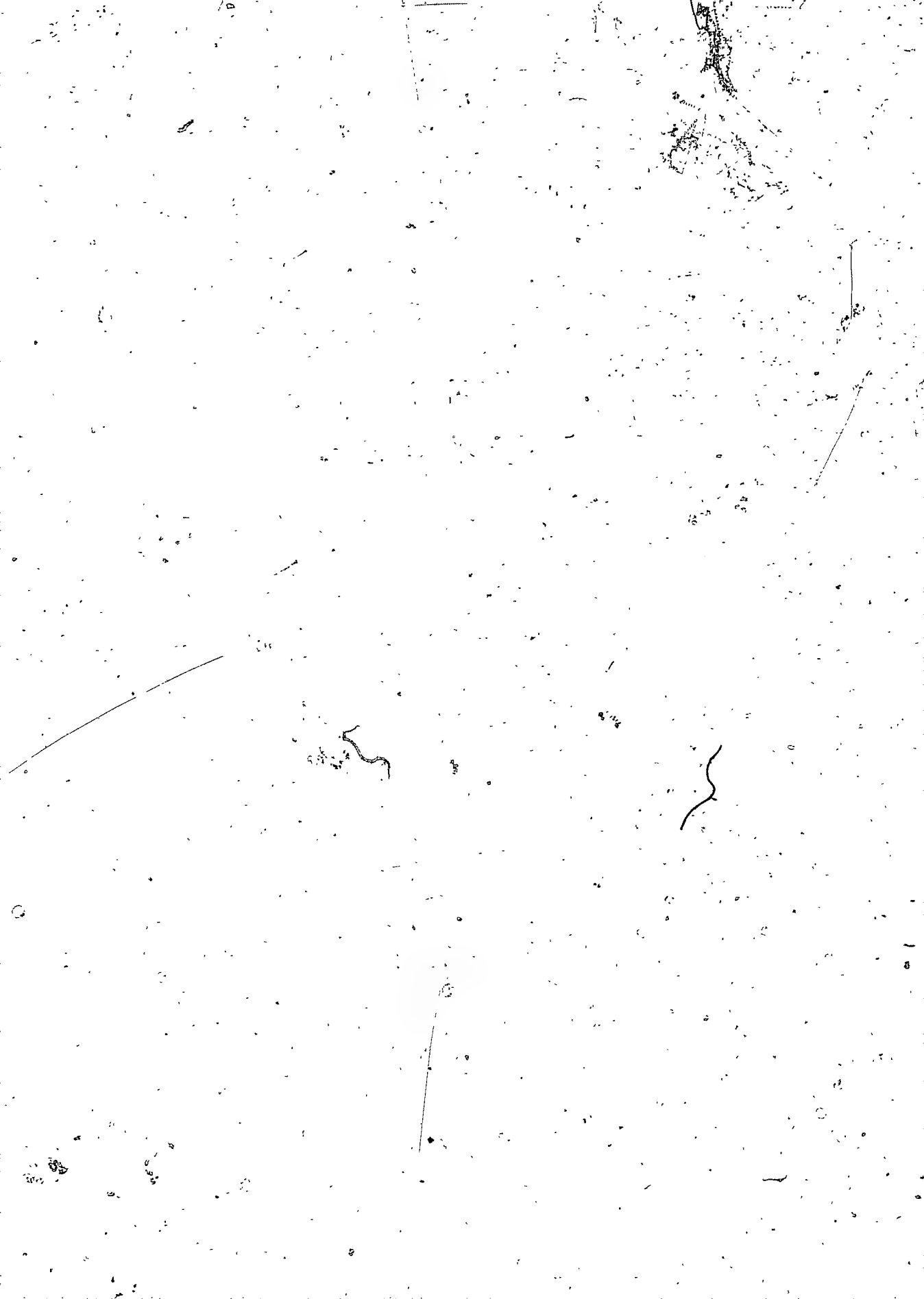
## THE PROGRESS.

As I have already stated it is barely 35 years since the country became a Canadian dependancy and for the first 10 years of its history as such, but little advancement was made because of the lack of means of ingress and egress, the nearest railway depot being St. Paul, Minnesota. A little business was done between that city and Winnipeg during the interval by means of flat bottomed boats on the Red River; but comparatively speaking, it was insignificant. On account of there being responsible government in Manitoba a few settlers were straggling in from the first but there was nothing like permanency in the settlement of the country until the railway approached in 1880.

Immigration began to head west after the year 1880, as railway building progressed.

I may here state that when the country was taken over by Canada in 1869 there were less than 10,000 white people in all. The principal white people were employees of the Hudson Bay Co., who had trading posts at various points throughout the entire territory. A few bushels of wheat were shipped as samples in 1877, but there was no general effort employed in cultivation until the railway reached the country as there was no sale for the production. Up to 1880 there were but three or four indifferent flour mills, and now there are one or more of them at all towns and villages of any magnitude throughout the entire breadth of the land; altogether there are 92 in number, some of them with a capacity of 3,000 bbls. a day. In that year there were but two grain elevators in the country, both at Winnipeg, and now there are 1,650 in the western country with a storing capacity of 32,000,000 bushels, and built at a cost of \$60,000,000. At the head of Lake Superior, at Fort William and Port Arthur, there are nine more, with a storing capacity of 18,200,000 which prevents congestion at all inland points. One elevator at Port Arthur, owned by the C. N. Railway Co., has a capacity of 6,400,000 bushels, and is therefore the largest structure of the kind in the world. The records of cropping in the earlier years of the country were not, as might well be supposed accurately kept; but in 1898, a thorough system of calculation was adopted by the government, and with that I make comparisons. I find that in that year the entire acreage of the whole country under crop was 2,590,770

Mills and elevators have multiplied all over the West.





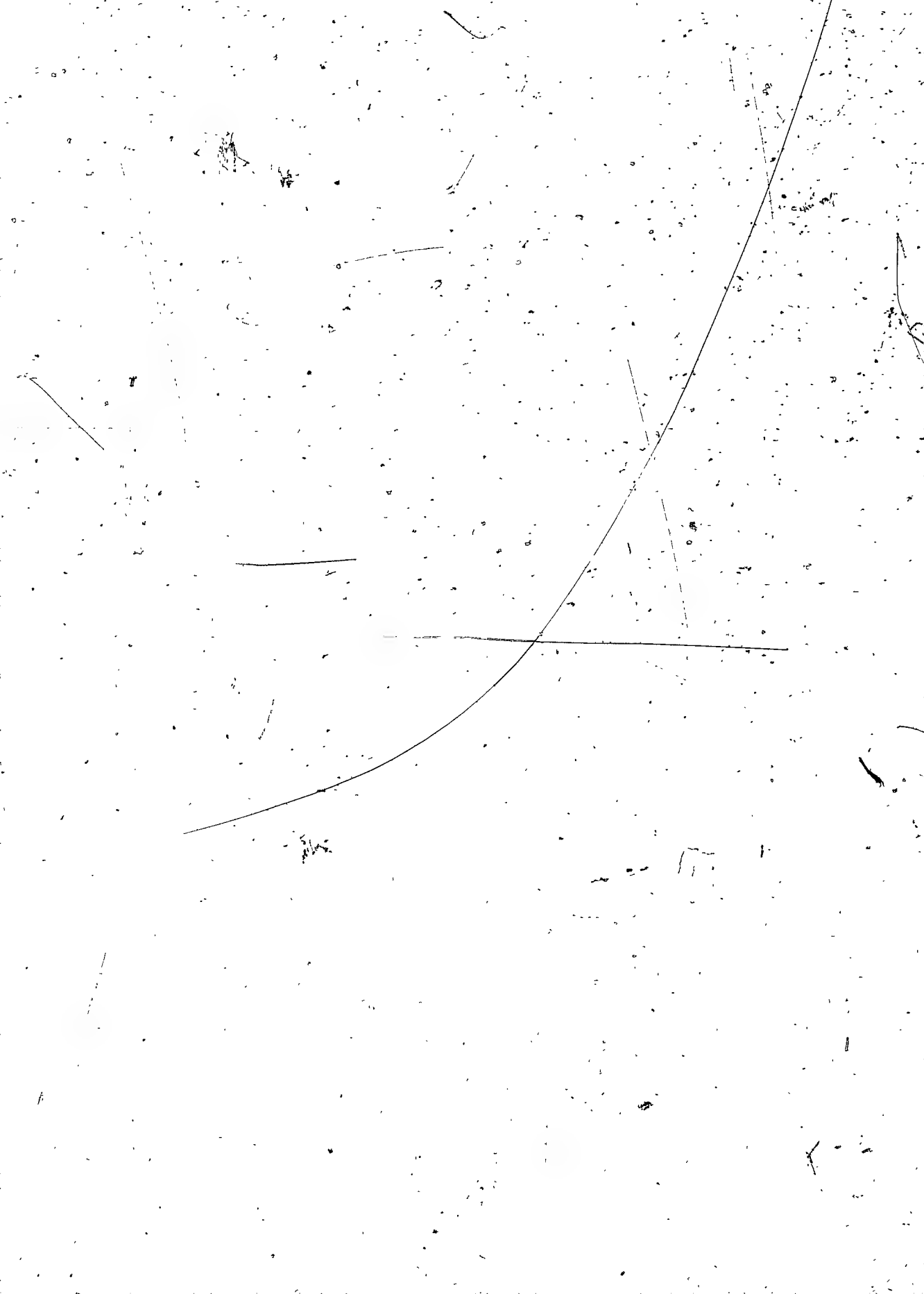
under all grains, and this has been increased to 6,879,000 acres the present year. I venture to say if the history of pioneering the world over be carefully scanned this rate of progress cannot be shown to be anywhere surpassed. As 4,495,000 acres of this total was under wheat this year, turning out 20 bushels to the acre, a calculation will show the total will exceed 89,000,000 bushels, and of oats the total will be about 75,000,000. In all grains there will be over 182,000,000 bushels. As wheat will run about 70 cents a bushel this year, oats about 40 cents and barley about 60, the total returns from these three crops will be about \$110,000,000 this year. To understand these figures better and bring them to individual comprehension, a short calculation is necessary.

### WHERE WEALTH COMES IN.

There are all told some 900,000 people in the country, a very small population for a territory of that size truly, but an unprecedented growth from the 55,000 of 25 years ago. In every country about half the people live in cities, towns and villages, which would leave 450,000 farming in that country. Estimating three to a family and we have just 150,000 heads of families in actual operations. Now as this total will receive \$110,000,000 from this year's crop it means over \$850 each, some making many times that and others much less by being only a year or so in the country. If we add to this total the receipts from other crops, the sale of horses, cattle and dairy products the average receipts of Canadian prairie farmers this year over all expenses of living will be but little, if any, short of \$1,500 each. Just figure out in your memory if you think there is any other community under the sun, no matter what their calling, in which the people averaged up do better than this?

This has been a golden year for the Western provinces.

"Yes," says one, "but this is exceptional." It is quite true the price this year may be somewhat exceptional but the yield invariably averages well. For the last ten years a careful estimate shows the wheat yield was over 20 bushels at an average of 65 cents a bushel; barley ran about 35 bushels to the acre, and oats 40. Now take these figures and cast them into practical results, and see just what they mean. A careful estimate shows a Canadian prairie

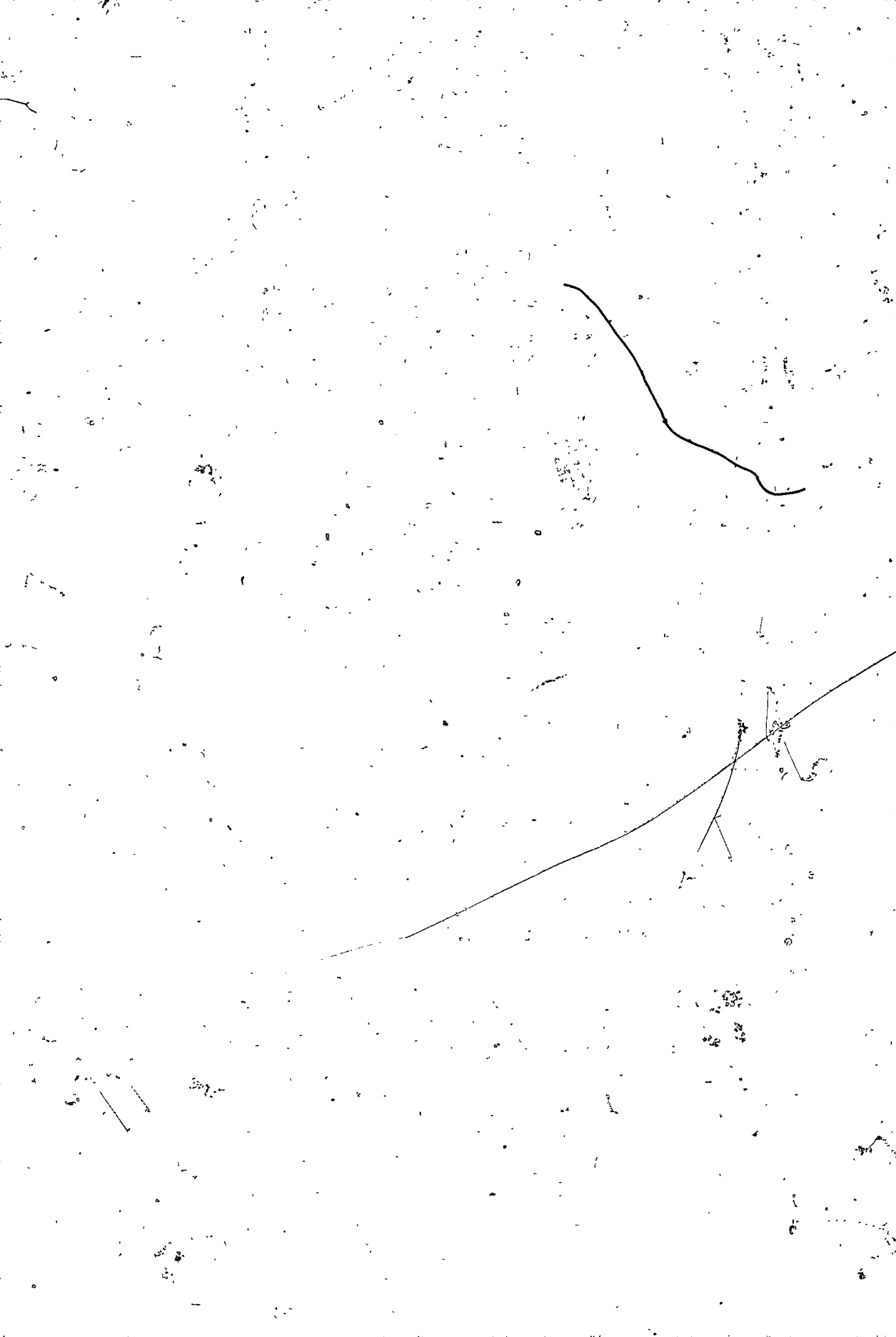


farmer can sit in his home, direct operations and grow wheat at \$7.50 per acre. That is, he can hire everything done and cover his cost at these figures. If he does some of the work himself, as all successful farmers do, he earns wages in the meantime. Now, 20 bushels to the acre at 65 cents, the average yield, and the average price is just \$13.00 per acre, leaving every farmer in that country who grew wheat the past 10 years \$5.50 per acre clear profit. This is the test that fully tells the tale.

### LAND NOT ALL TAKEN UP.

Another person will say, "Yes this may be true of all the farmers who are there now, but of course all the good land is now taken up." The reports of the director of Experimental Farms at Ottawa, Mr. Saunders, show that for several years past an excellent article of wheat has been grown in the Peace River country, which is over 800 miles north of the international boundary, the crops being over 65 lbs. to the bushel and maturing in 10 days less time than they require at the southern boundary of the country and the northern boundary of this. This would give us an area larger than I have mentioned 385,000,000 acres and on which there are but 150,000 actual heads of families operating. The area under crop this year is scarcely two per cent. of this broad expanse of territory. Another may say that while even this may be true all the land convenient to the railways is at least taken up, and locating on other lands means isolation pure and simple. This to an extent is the case, but a view of the facts need cause the settler in any part of the country no alarm on this score. It is but a few years since there was but one railway in the country, the main line of the Canadian Pacific from east to west, and today there are four trunk systems in possession of the country building branches wherever there are settlements of people to patronise them. The railways are fully alive to the situation—they know well Western Canada has the capability for supporting several lines of road even double tracked, and they are making the most of opportunities to occupy it, from the fact there are now nearly 10,000 miles of road in operation in the country. This does not give the country better rail facilities per mile than other countries but it does give Western Canada a greater railway

Millions of  
acres to be  
had for the  
asking.



mileage per head for its population than is possessed by any other country in the world, barring none. As a matter of fact most of the best free land close to the railways is taken up, but at short distances, where roads will be built when the people are there to patronise them, there are millions and millions of farms to be had yet for the asking. Those, of course, who want to at first settle near railways and villages can always get all the land they want to buy from railway companies, the Hudson Bay Co., and other corporations at from \$5 to \$10 per acre. Thus every class of settler can be accommodated; the man with but little means who is willing to pioneer until his circumstances improve, and the man who has means and wants to start into operations at once in an improved section of the country. Even men without families who are willing to hire with farmers, can always get employment until they have made money enough to take up land (homesteads) for themselves. Many of the best off men in the country have commenced this way.

### CATTLE RAISING.

Although grain growing is the leading branch of agriculture of the country, and doubtless will ever remain so, cattle raising, dairying and root and vegetable growing are important factors in the calculations of the successful farmer.

Herds roam the country all the year round.

As most people already know, the warm winds from the Pacific Ocean readily cross the Rocky Mountains in southern Alberta, and all along the range to the extreme north for that matter, and have such an influence on the climate that hard freezing and continuous snow depths are wholly unknown. In the winter the snow in that section melts almost as soon as it falls and the frosts are light. This renders southern Alberta, the province next the Rockies and southwestern Saskatchewan an ideal ranching country—the leading one of the world with an area capable of supporting 20 times the present number of herds upon it. Here stable feeding is altogether unknown except to weak animals. The herds roam the country over all winter and appear almost invariably in excellent condition in the spring. The grass retains all its nutritive properties the entire year through making winter keep for herds of horses, cattle and sheep no more expensive than common pasture in the summer.



Areas for large herds are leased from the government for mere nominal figures, and as a result many of the ranch men are becoming the wealthiest men in the country. There is a good demand from incoming settlers for all the horses raised, and some of the breeding animals of other classes, while the mining districts of British Columbia hard by furnish a first-class market for much of the beef, mutton, pork, poultry and dairy products of the entire country.

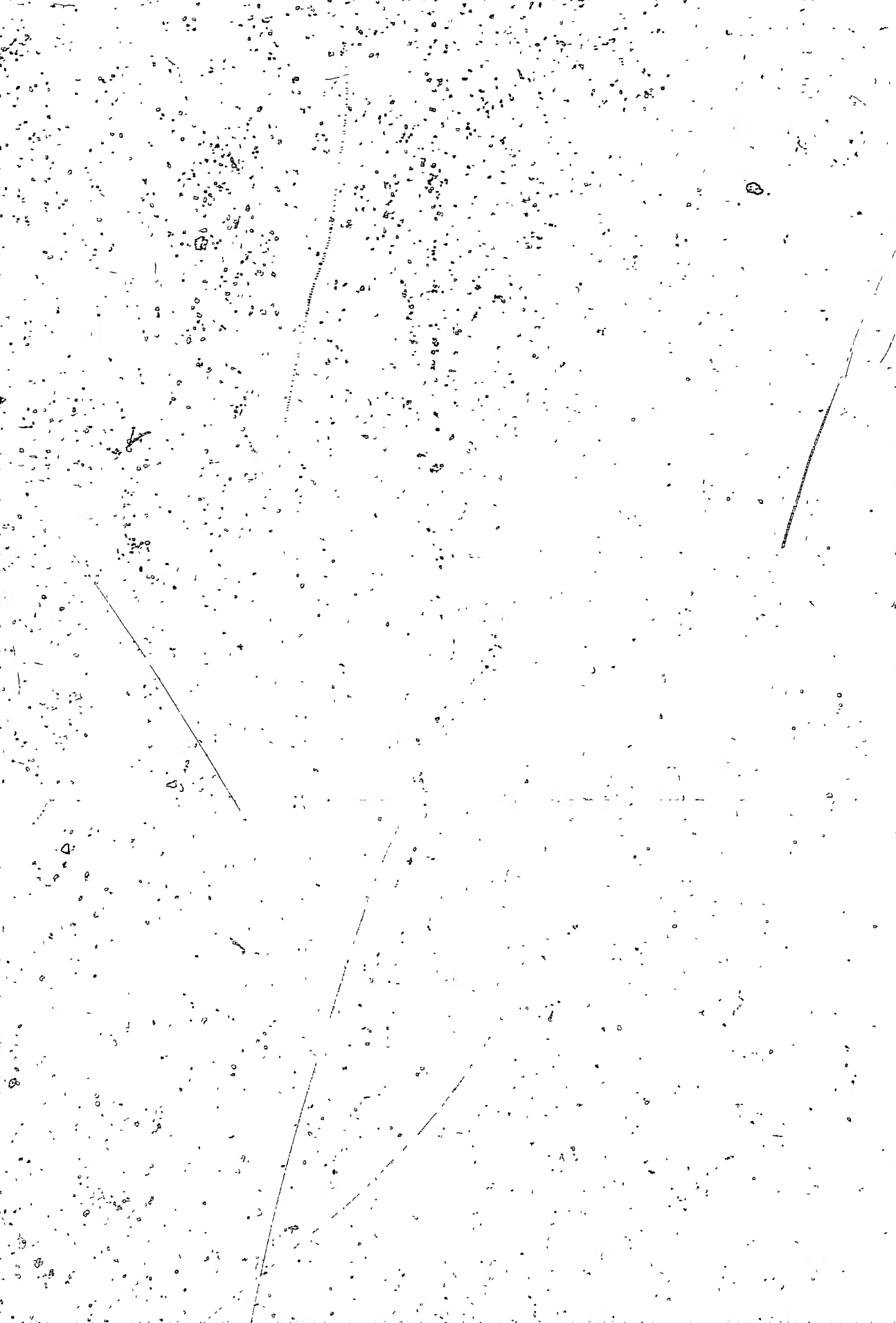
For the men who prefer cattle ranching or horse breeding to other branches of industry the western portion of this country furnishes an unequalled field for the enterprise. So for some years over \$4,000,000 has been received from the sale of live stock.

### DAIRYING.

Dairying, the third branch of Western Canadian enterprise, has already reached large proportions, and as the settlers settle down to the usual methods of farming it is certain to reach much larger proportions. With pasturage for immense herds of cattle in every part of the country to be had for nothing, and hay for winter keep to be procured for the cutting, dairying is a matter of easy management. It is, however, not prosecuted as extensively as it will be later for the reason that money is more quickly made out of cropping, and the latter can at the start be handled with less capital.

The government market the products of the dairies.

There are dairy schools in some of the larger towns in which the science of dairying is taught to all who want to learn. Those who become proficient are placed in charge of dairies in all parts of the country where they are required. These dairies are built in the most approved plan and are under government control, and management giving the settlers several direct advantages. In the first place it saves them the trouble and cost of erecting buildings for the care and management of products. All they have to do is to deliver their milk or cream at the dairies once a day, draw a portion of the proceeds once a month and receive settlements at the close of the season. On account of the dairies being under government control absolute safety of returns is assured—no risks are run and the most is made out of their supplies through the efficiency of trained dairy-men. Besides this again, the products are sold in bulk when the best markets are available. These are considerations of much moment.





## MIXED FARMING.

While these are the three most prominent branches of the agricultural interests and are conducted separately in different localities, the west being the ideal ranching country, the centre belt running across country from Winnipeg to Edmonton diagonally and embracing the largest wheat belt in the world easterly and northerly for natural reasons all three are combined in mixed farming. In short, it is safe to say that in a few years as the country becomes better settled "mixed operations" will be the rule as all work harmoniously together and all can be conducted together more advantageously when the farmer has more means than otherwise. With a country of such an expanse, a climate for developing the most robust men and women, school and other educational facilities, the very best perfect freedom in government, an abundance of fuel for all time in the coal mines dotting the country over; lumber for all building purposes, when not convenient in the country itself though it has many timbered districts, convenient in the provinces on either side; the best of good water for man and beast; absolute immunity from fevers and other destructive diseases, tornados and such visitations; a soil that produces all the staples of agriculture; plenty of land to be had for the asking, and postal, mercantile and such other facilities convenient, it is little wonder that it is filling up to the astonishment of people everywhere. As I have said the industrious man without means can always find employment there at reasonable remuneration; the man of moderate means can from this country drive in his live stock and other effects take up his farm and be comfortable in a very short time; while the man of means can find investments safe as the bank and doubling in value every three or four years. I have but little more to say, Will it or will it not pay you who are burdened with taxes on mortgaged properties—whose crops are not always certain and profitable,—to sell out all you can sell, move everything moveable, you cannot sell to advantage, and locate in that country where there are hundreds of your countrymen located and blessing the day they first made up their minds to settle there.

Mixed farming will soon be the rule in many localities.